THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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PHOTO: S DINESH

IMD: APRIL-JUNE MAY BE HOTTER THAN USUAL

India is likely to experience hotter-than-usual temperatures from April to June, with more heatwave days in central and western plains. States likely to see above-normal heatwave days are Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, MP, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and the northern parts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, IMD chief Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said in an online press conference on Monday | P7

JEE MAINS 2025 [Session-1] Result

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Karthik S

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WE HAVE NO OTHER BRANCHES

NEW MONEY RULES FROM TODAY

A series of financial changes will take effect from today

NEW I-T SLABS

Under the new tax regime, no tax to be paid for salaried individual earning up to ₹12.75 lakh a year *(Nil tax till ₹12 lakh + ₹75,000 standard deduction)*

UNIFIED PENSION SCHEME

Under this, Central government employees will get fixed pension equal to 50% of their average basic salary of last 12 months

NEW UPI RULES

If your mobile number is inactive or unused for a long time, update it with your bank before April 1, to avoid losing access to UPI payments

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Multi-factor authentication will be made mandatory for taxpayers for better security on the GST portal

Succession speculation on Modi trashed by Fadnavis

Rubbishes Raut's claim, says the PM would lead India beyond 2029

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI & RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ Mumbai/New Delhi

MAHARASHTRA Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday rubbished speculation about Narendra Modi's successor, a day after the latter visited the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) headquarters in Nagpur. He added that Modi would continue to lead the country beyond 2029, when the next Lok Sabha polls are due.

Fadnavis was reacting to Uddhav Sena leader Sanjay Raut's statement earlier in the day that Modi's visit to the RSS HQ was to "announce his retirement" and discuss his succession plan.

"In 2029, we will see Modi as the prime minister again," Fadnavis told the media in Nagpur. "There is no need to search for his successor. He (Modi) is our leader and will continue," he asserted. "In our culture, when the father is alive, it is inappropriate to talk about succession. That is Mughal culture. The time has not come to discuss it," Fadnavis said.

Raut had claimed that Modi's successor would be from Maharashtra.

Separately, former RSS general secretary Suresh Bhaiyyaji Joshi, too, said he was not aware of any talk of the prime minister's replacement.

"It appears that Modi's successor will be decided by the RSS which is why Modi was called (to Nagpur) and discussions took place. Sangh's discussions are held behind closed doors. The indications are very clear. The Sangh will decide the next leader, who could be from Maharashtra," Raut claimed.

As for choosing a successor for BJP's national president J P Nadda, the party is reportedly in the process of shortlisting candidates. Among the frontrunners are Union ministers Manohar Lal Khattar, Dharmendra Pradhan and Bhupendra Yadav, along with three women—finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, BJP Parliamentary Board member Sudha Yadav, and Daggubati Purandeswari, party president of the Andhra Pradesh unit.

The final decision is expected by mid-April, with the official announcement at the upcoming BJP National Council meeting in Bengaluru.

STRAIGHT FROM SCREEN

'Money Heist' inspires gang to steal 17 kg gold

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Davanagere

THE Davanagere district police on Monday successfully cracked one of the most infamous bank heists in the country and recovered 17 kg of gold worth Rs 13 crore after arresting six accused.

The police investigation revealed that the accused had watched "Money Heist" and other crime series on Netflix and other OTT channels and took extensive notes by going through endless YouTube videos before committing the crime. Their preparation went on for six months and when they robbed the bank, they did not leave a clue, sending the local police on a wild goose chase.

The six accused targeted Nyamathi branch of State Bank of India, only because the bank did not extend a loan to the heist mastermind who wanted to expand his bakery business. The theft took place on October 28, 2024.

Six teams of police took five long months before arresting Vijay Kumar, the mastermind, Ajay Kumar, Abhishek, Manjunath, Chandru and Paramanand.

The stolen 17 kg gold was recovered from a dilapidated well inside a deep jungle in Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

Vijay, Ajay and Paramanand, originally from Tamil Nadu, were running a bakery business in Nyamati for several years, while the other three, Manjunath, Abhishek, and Chandru, are local residents from Honnali and Nyamati.

While running away from the scene of the crime, the gang removed CCTV cameras and took away the digital video recorder (DVR). They threw chilli powder on their escape route to mislead dog squads. P3

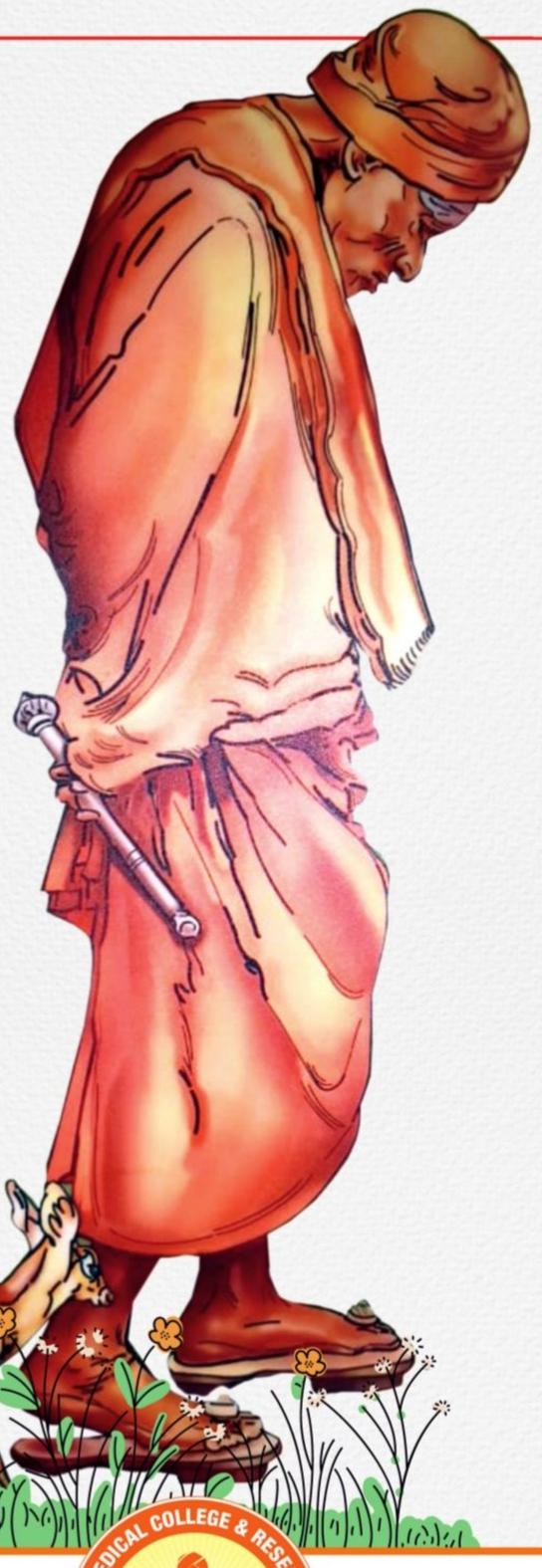
Congress calls for quota in private edu institutions

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

EXPRESSING concern over the underrepresentation of backward classes in higher institutions, Congress on Monday asked the Centre to pass a law to provide reservation for SC/STs, and OBCs in private educational institutions.

Congress general secretary in-charge of communication Jairam Ramesh said a Parliamentary panel has recommended a new legislation to implement Article 15(5). It empowers the state to introduce reservation in admission at educational institutions, including private ones. He noted that Congress is committed to bringing legislation to implement Art 15(5) in private, non-minority educational institutions.

He said the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Admission) Act, 2006 was passed and quota for SC, ST and socially and educationally backward classes was introduced from January 3, 2007.



He was a perfect union of ***Panchaboothas***

His thoughts were as high as sky ***(Akasha)***

He spindled fire of pride and nationality in every young 11,000 souls he nurtured every year ***(Fire)***

He believed in Work is Worship to make the mother earth the best place to live ***(Prithvi)***

He touched millions of hearts like the air ***(Vayu)***

He was always on the move, never tired ***(Water)***

In every true sense he epitomized life.

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ALMANAC TODAY

• **Tuesday:** 01.04.2025 • **Year:** Vishwavasu • **Ayana:** Uttarayana • **Ritu:** Vasantha • **Masa:** Chaitra • **Paksha:** Sukla • **Tithi:** Thrutheeya 9.43 am • **Nakshatra:** Bharani 3.12 pm • Moon in Vrishabha Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 03:00 am to 04:30 am • **Gulikakala:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • **Yamaganda:** 09:00 am to 10:30 am

WEATHER

MIN 22°C | MAX 36°C

FORECAST Overcast

Sunrise 06.16 am · Sunset 06.31 pm · Moonrise 07.28 am · Moonset 07.51 pm

Milk prices, highway toll, lifetime tax on vehicles to go up from today

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

IT is super whammy for consumers on Tuesday, as the increase in prices of milk, curds, electricity and others will come into effect in Karnataka. This will have a cascading effect with hotels increasing rates of milk-based products like coffee, tea and badam milk because of the Rs 4 hike in milk prices per litre.

The revision of toll on highways across the state too will come into effect from April 1, which will in turn increase the cost of essentials like vegetables, fruits and flowers. The government will also start raking in the moolah with the additional cess on newly registered commercial vehicles -- taxis, buses and auto-rickshaws -- and the introduction of a lifetime tax on e-vehicles costing above Rs 25 lakh. Commercial vehicle owners and operators have said the price hike will be passed on to consumers directly.

The price hikes announced in the union and state budgets too will come into effect from April 1, which is the beginning of the new financial year.

Bangalore Hotels Association honorary president PC Rao said, "Last month, several

hotels revised the prices of coffee as the cost of coffee powder went up. While they may not increase the rates again, the remaining will hike the cost of milk-based beverages by Rs 2-3 or more, depending on the hotels, their customer base and location."

He said the price of coffee is the lowest in Karnataka, while it is steep in other states.

Some hotels may wait for sometime before increasing prices as they fear losing customers. "Along with the milk price hike, the power tariff too is getting revised, and there is the user fee for garbage collection by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike. Hotels will have to consider all these factors before revising prices," Rao said.

"We were paying Rs 10 for a cup of coffee or tea. It got revised to Rs 12 and then Rs 14 and rounded off to Rs 15, all in a matter of a few weeks. Now with this milk price hike, the rate of coffee or tea even in a small hotel will not be less than Rs 20. I may have to cut down from 3-4 cups of coffee to just one or two per day as this will be a burden on me," said Purushotham Shiva.

He lamented that the cost of every essential item has been sky-rocketing, while the income of the majority of the people has remained the same.

BBMP collects ₹4,800 crore in property tax

Sets target of ₹5,716 cr for 2025-26, saw increase of whopping ₹1,000 cr this year

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has collected over Rs 4,800 crore in property tax till March 30. The civic body was aiming to cross Rs 5,000 crore and set a new record this year. As citizens pay their dues only at the last minute to avoid penalties, the Palike is hoping that the collections will significantly jump on Monday and a final figure will be arrived at on or before April 3.

The target set for property tax collection by BBMP for the financial year 2024-25 was Rs 5,200 crore, of which BBMP was able to mop up Rs 4,800 crore till March 30. Though there is a shortfall of Rs 400 crore, officials claim that the BBMP has the highest property tax collection in India, and this year's accruals saw an increase of a whopping Rs 1,000 crore. They attribute the jump to administrative decisions, including auctioning of properties of chronic defaulters to recover the dues, use of information technology systems and repeated follow-ups by officials from the BBMP revenue department

Special Commissioner (Revenue) Munish Moudgil said the civic body aims to collect the maximum possible arrears and tax collection will go on till midnight of March 31.

"Quite a bit of collection of arrears in the last few days has been through manual cheques and demand drafts (especially dues from government properties) which are yet to be accounted fully in overall collections. It will be compiled after March 31," he said, adding that a clear picture of the total collection for 2024-25 will emerge by April 2 or 3.

For the financial year 2025-26, BBMP has set a target of Rs 5,716 crore and the civic body is aiming to reach the goal by identifying properties that are outside the tax purview and capacity building by providing training to the revenue staff.

SPIRITUAL CONGREGATION

On Eid-ul-Fitr, Muslims offer prayers at Chamarajpet Eidgah Maidan on Monday. (Right) Children exchange greetings on the special occasion | **SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA**

BBMP to launch single app for civic complaints

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

TO put an end to multiple apps to lodge civic complaints, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will be developing an integrated app, bringing all of them under one umbrella.

The Palike has developed many mobile apps like Fix Pothole, Sahaaya app, e-Khatha app, advertisement app, Property GPS app etc. Citizens have to download these multiple apps to avail themselves of the services and/or raise complaints.

Realising the difficulties faced by citizens in using multiple apps, BBMP will be bringing all of these mobile apps under one umbrella—BBMP One app. The app will be developed as part of the 'Tech Bengaluru' initiative under the 'Brand Bengaluru' initiative announced in the recent BBMP budget. The BBMP has set aside Rs 40 crore for the 'Tech Bengaluru' initiative.

Calling the move citizen-friendly, Banumathi, a resident of Kumarswamy Layout, suggested that BBMP take complaints from these apps seriously and resolve them without any delay.

Founder member of Bengaluru Praja Vedike N S Mukunda suggested that the civic body do its job first instead of developing apps. "All the previous apps developed by BBMP are not effective enough. I feel that the BBMP app, whether all integrated into one or the multiple apps, will not serve any as they may be used by the BBMP officials to pass the buck and keep on postponing their duties," Mukunda said. He questioned the effectiveness of the existing multiple apps and said that these would not be needed if the ward engineers discharged their duties effectively. "The ward-level engineers are aware of all the problems faced by the citizens. Do citizens need to raise the problems through the app to get them resolved?" he wondered.

Not shutting power grid delays KIA line Metro work

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE final portion of the Airport Line that runs from K R Pura to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) faces an issue due to a power grid falling in the way of its alignment near the proposed Doddajala station. Despite urging the Power Grid Corporation of India repeatedly over three months to announce a shutdown for a few days, it has not been done, said Metro sources.

A top Metro official said that six U-girders (three spans) could not be erected as the power grid lines run above. "We just need to have shutdown for three consecutive nights so that we can erect our girders. The six girders are ready. However, we are just not getting permission for it from the Power Grid Corporation," he said.

The Electoral Inspectorate of the Government of India has also inspected the spot and given a No Objection Certificate for the passing of the line here.

A total of 758 girders will totally be installed in Package 3 from IAF Yelahanka to Terminal 2 of KIA. This runs to 15.01 km. "This package is progressing quite fast and almost 75% of the work has been completed. Of the total girders to be installed, 693 have been cast, while 601 have been erected," the official added.

Package-1 runs between Kasturinagar and Kempapura while Package-2 runs between Kempapura and IAF Yelahanka. The 36.44 km Airport Line has 17 stations along its network. BMRCL plans to open the Airport Corridor in two phases next year. KIA to Hebbal is planned to be launched by September and the Hebbal-K R Pura section in December.

The CM in his budget speech recently announced an extension of this line to Devanahalli.

B.PAC safety audit for 2 constituencies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC) released the B.SAFE Constituency Public Place Safety Audit Report for Vijayanagar and Govindarajnagar Assembly Constituencies.

During the study analysis of the audit conducted across the nine BBMP wards in the Vijayanagar and 10 BBMP wards of Govindarajnagar assembly constituencies, the analysis revealed that the overall public place safety score for the constituency can be improved by taking certain immediate steps.

For the Vijayanagar constituency, the study recommended making bus stops more accessible by providing basic amenities like seating, route maps and details; improving walkable footpaths in and around the bus stops; expanding Anganwadi Kendras into full day care centers; deputing security guards and opening of public toilets throughout the day and provision of basic facilities like sanitary pads, a press release said. The study also highlighted that 62% require proper seating arrangements for enrolled students in Anganwadi Kendras.

The report provides an assessment of 265 public places across six key categories frequently accessed by women, covering 46 Anganwadi Kendras, 131 bus stops, 58 parks, 10 primary health centres, four police stations and 16 public toilets across both constituencies.

EXPRESS READ

Free robotic knee surgery for 100 farmers at Kauvery Hospitals

Bengaluru: Kauvery Hospitals has announced the launch of "Kauvery Sankalp," an initiative aimed at providing free robotic knee replacement surgeries to 100 farmers across the state. Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy inaugurated the program recently and said, "It is heartening to see a private hospital utilizing CSR funds in such a meaningful way. Farmers are the backbone of our economy, yet their health is often neglected. Initiatives like Kauvery Sankalp deserve our wholehearted support. Programs like these not only address critical health care gaps but also empower our farming community by restoring their physical strength and dignity." The event was also attended by Dr. S. Vijayabhaskaran,Executive Director of Kauvery Hospitals, Bengaluru, and senior doctors and leaders from Kauvery Hospitals' Electronic City and Marathahalli branches. Under Kauvery Sankalp, only eligible farmers requiring knee replacement surgery will be provided treatment to restore their active mobility. A rigorous selection process, including medical evaluations and socio-economic background checks, will ensure fairness and transparency. Interested farmers can check their eligibility by contacting the Kauvery Sankalp helpline at +91 80801 099999. They can also register for screening camps, which will continue until April 30.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

01ST April : It's time to speak once again about the confusion between reality and illusion. Well, today, the questions are even more muddled. Mind you, it's a wonderfully passionate moment for romantics, artists, poets and people in love. It's even better for folk who couldn't give a fig for practical affairs!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
One set of planetary patterns is reckless, another is optimistic. The end result could be interesting to say the least! If you feel like taking a moderate risk then go ahead, as long as your timing is right and you've consulted all the experts. After all, sometimes life is just too short to stay in one place.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Challenging relationships between Mercury and a number of other planets mean that you may be forced to shift your position a little this week. In fact, you may as well give a mile as an inch, and resolve a long-term difficulty while you're about it.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Everything revolves around your attitudes and opinions. The big question is, are you prepared to be more flexible? If not, you may find that you lose the advantage and perhaps sacrifice a friendship. The last thing you want to do now is drift apart from somebody who has been so special.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Jealousy is not a pleasant emotion, but you do find it far too easy to become envious of others' apparently marvellous situations. Stop for a moment and think about just exactly how much you have going for you. Perhaps, you might discover, they think it's you who has got it made!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You may be on tenterhooks as generous Jupiter approaches a fresh relationship with your chart. You're on a long-term cycle of emotional exploration and it's possible that you're already looking forward to an engagement that's not scheduled to take place until next year.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You can pay a bit more attention than usual to professional qualms and queries. You're bound to feel a little emotional about your place in the world, but nothing will suffice except commonsense and an appreciation of reality. Just because other people have their heads in the clouds, that doesn't mean that you should join them.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Surprises await. I cannot promise that everything will be easy, but I can assure you that in amongst the thorns, roses will bloom. Be patient and wait until next week for the real magic, though. But, then, at the risk of sounding trite, magic is all around you - all you have to do is look.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
May I remind you that pride is one of the seven deadly sins? I'm pointing this out now because you're currently quite prepared to listen to other people, but I hope you'll remember this piece of advice in about a month's time when you'll be convinced you're number one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You are having to do a tricky juggling act, and it seems as if you have taken on one commitment too many. You must decide what is to go and what is to stay. If you don't make up your mind, then the choice may be made for you. And if that happens then you may not be able to influence the outcome.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
I know that when events move fast it may all be a little scary, but everything in astrology comes in phases. If you deal well with current tension then you'll be in an ideal position to enjoy relaxed conditions next month. You may also be feeling somewhat more affluent.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
As things are starting to go right in one area, you may imagine that they are starting to run off course in another. Perhaps you've been doing something wrong: it's important not to bend the rules at this stage, at least not until you can see the lie of the land.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
One particular disagreement does not want to go away, however much you wish it would! It's not in your nature to grit your teeth and carry on, so do what you can to make sure that everyone sees that peace and harmony are the fundamental conditions for a happy world.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

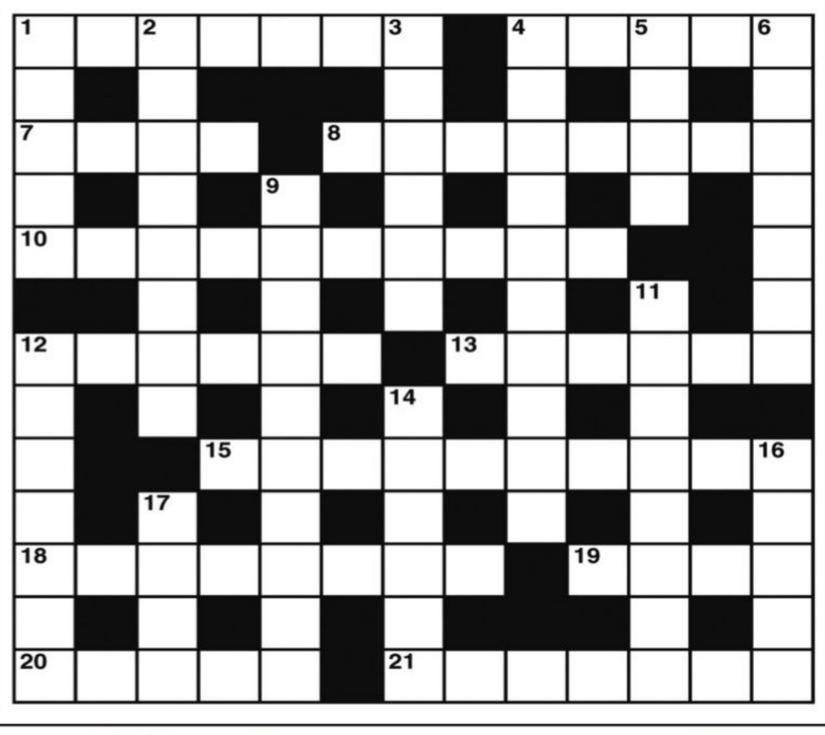
6		4		5		8	2	
					1	7		
					9	5		
	8			3	2			1
3			8	6			5	
		9	3					
		7	2					
	2	3		7		6		8

8	3	2	4	6	1	5	9	7
4	9	6	2	7	5	3	1	8
7	5	1	3	9	8	6	4	2
3	2	8	5	4	9	1	7	6
6	4	9	7	1	2	8	5	3
1	7	5	8	3	6	9	2	4
9	1	4	6	8	7	2	3	5
2	8	7	9	5	3	4	6	1
5	6	3	1	2	4	7	8	9

SUDOKU EVIL

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Not interrupted without purpose (7)
4 It's an unusual material (5)
7 Agreed to be swindled (4)
8 As it's laid down, flags should be visible (8)
10 Accommodation for sleeping partners (6,4)
12 Gold backing used by firms for decorative style (6)
13 Holy man made to look for water (6)
15 I'm sorry for refusing to admit the error of my ways (10)
18 Transport for nothing in Hamburg perhaps (8)
19 King appears to vex the church (4)
20 Moral principle held by the thick-skinned (5)
21 Add more solids to kitchen stew (7)

DOWN

1 Concluded that many are in dire need (5)
2 Censure of study is given little weight (8)
3 To hush an upset baby is rather mean (6)
4 Sort of simple diet it's dangerous to exceed (5,5)
5 Bound to sound like a current variation (4)
6 Distinguished but inept (7)
9 Bad spelling (5,5)
11 Fruit placed to stack in five lines (8)
12 Lies with rib broken? Ridiculous! (7)
14 Have second thoughts about hypocrisy (6)
16 A testimony to understanding (5)
17 Ancient boatman shows absence of surprise (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Just So, 4 Upraised, 9 Canopy, 10 Psalmist, 12 Plum, 13 Actor, 14 Plan, 17 To all intents, 20 Housebreaker, 23 Also, 24 First, 25 Stag, 28 Presents, 29 Gallon, 30 Tapestry, 31 Senses.

Down: 1 Jackpots, 2 Singular, 3 Saps, 5 Past one's best, 6 Awls, 7 Spills, 8 Doting, 11 Scene-shifter, 15 Eliot, 16 Other, 18 Skittles, 19 Brigands, 21 Carpet, 22 Asleep, 26 News, 27 Race.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

IGDEU

BMIOL

WOHRGT

GNRELO

You're so good with me putting these on you. They'll keep your paws warm.
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Play Jumble
THE COMPUTER TECH PREPARED HER PUP FOR THE SNOW EACH DAY BY ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: OMEGA SWISH PIGLET UNJUST
Answer: Not everyone believes that marriage is for them, but those who do — ESPOUSE IT

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

03 BENGALURU | TUESDAY 01.04.2025 | newindianexpress.com

A shopkeeper's nose was chopped during a dispute over setting up a shop on the footpath at Khade Bazaar in Belagavi. The victim, Sufiyan Pathan (42), was in the process of opening his shop when an argument erupted between him and Ayan Desai. Witnesses reported that the argument quickly escalated, leading to a physical confrontation

With IPL on in full swing, police look to curb illegal betting

'Despite banning some apps, they reappear through illegal, encypted message platforms'

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

IN an effort to prevent the likelihood of people placing bets and losing money during the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL), the police have intensified vigilance and are keeping a lookout for illegal betting activities. While offline betting is banned in the state under the Karnataka Police Act, illegal online betting platforms and gaming applications remain a grey area and a growing concern.

A senior police officer confirmed that the police are taking action against those involved in offline betting, but concerns remain over illegal online betting and gaming apps. Many online betting platforms operate in a legal grey area, exploiting loopholes by classifying themselves as 'games of skill', rather than 'games of chance'.

He explained that online gaming is categorised into two types — 'games of skill', which require expertise and are legal; and 'games of chance', which rely on random factors and are illegal. Most fantasy gaming apps available on app stores fall under the 'games of skill' type, but there is heightened fear that the youth tend to get addicted to them, eventually turning them into 'games of chance'.

The officer further added that online gaming and gambling platforms create a false sense of easy earnings, leading users to invest large sums of money in the hope of quick profits. However, repeated losses often push individuals into financial distress, forcing them to take loans. Some, unable to repay their debts, have resorted to desperate measures too, including crime such as theft and chain-snatching, he mentioned. There have also been instances of people taking the extreme step. This year alone, five people died by suicide due to online betting-related cases, while six and eight people lost their lives in 2024 and 2023, respectively.

The officer noted that despite the government banning certain apps for promoting betting, they reappear through illegal, and encrypted messaging platforms, which are used for transactions and communication, making them even harder to be tracked. He further informed that during each season of any major sporting activity, a new gaming app is in the works, while there are plenty of such apps already available in the country. In 2024, Karnataka reported 340 online betting cases, with 109 in Bengaluru.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Shekhar HT said, "We have intensified vigilance on betting activities. Officers will monitor the crowd inside M Chinnaswamy Stadium too, and track habitual offenders. Meanwhile, the Cybercrime and CCB police are investigating online platforms and monitoring gaming applications."

SCARY NUMBERS

In 2024, Karnataka reported 340 online betting cases, with 109 in Bengaluru.

Five people died by suicide in 2025 due to online betting-related cases. Six people lost their life in 2024, while eight in 2023.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

Mastermind takes inspiration from 'Money Heist'
MONEY HEIST
SBI
Gang uses gas cutters to steal gold
Hides the gold in a well in Madurai
All 6 arrested after 5 months

Gang practised for 6 months to rob bank

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE investigators first suspected an inter-state gang, as a similar bank robbery had occurred at Bhadravathi in Karnataka. The police even pursued a gang from Kakral in Uttar Pradesh, but later found that they were not involved. Later, the focus shifted to local suspects, leading to the identification of Vijay and his associates. The police said the their teams found certain technical evidence that revealed the involvement of persons from Tamil Nadu with associates in Nyamati. The police swiftly acted to apprehend the offenders and their interrogation revealed the involvement of Vijay and his accomplices.

Vijay was running a bakery and sweets shop named VIP Snacks in Nyamathi with his father for 25-30 years. He had applied for a loan of around Rs 15 lakh at SBI in March 2023 to develop the business. But his loan application was rejected as his credit score was poor. He applied again in the name of his relatives at the same bank. Again, it was rejected. That was when he formed his gang to steal from the bank, the police stated.

Davanagere police recover stolen gold ornaments from a well in Madurai

They practised for six months and sourced various equipment required for the robbery from local stores in Shivamogga and Nyamathi. Three months before the robbery, they had met at Surahonne school and prepared outlines of the robbery. They were confident that they will lead a life of luxury once they executed the heist, the police said. Soon after the crime, Vijay hid the gold in the trunk of a silver-coloured SUV in his house.

Later, he placed it in a small locker and hid it in a well belonging to his family in the Madurai forest. When things cooled down a bit, he took out some of the gold and deposited it in banks in his and relatives' names and sold some in gold shops. He then gave Rs 1 lakh each to Abhi, Chandru, and Manju, built a big house in the village, and bought some plots.

The accused, during interrogation, told the police that they threw the hydraulic cutter, gas cylinder and other items used in the crime into a lake near Savalanga town. They also smashed the hard disk and DVR with a stone and then threw them into the lake. IGP (Eastern Range) Dr Ravikanthe Gowda said, "It was a professionally executed crime. They entered the branch through a window, cut the safe with a gas cutter and robbed gold jewellery." The government has awarded the chief minister's medal to 10 police personnel who successfully cracked the case. A special reward has also been announced for them.

SOUTH INDIA'S 1ST

Victoria hosp to get organ retrieval centre in 4-6 months

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Department of Medical Education has sanctioned Rs 1 crore to set up an organ transplant and retrieval centre in Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru.

Considered to be the first such government facility in South India, it is expected to be operational within the next 4 to 6 months. Also, to facilitate smooth organ transport, a helipad is being constructed at the hospital.

According to Medical Education Minister Dr Sharan Prakash Patil, the centre will play a crucial role in streamlining organ procurement for transplants.

Stating that identifying potential donors, ensuring safe procedures, conducting family counselling, providing advanced ICU care and adhering to legal frameworks are critical for effective organ donation, Dr Patil said that adequate funding has been allocated for the centre's holistic development. "This initiative is highly meaningful and will benefit economically disadvantaged patients," he added.

The establishment of an integrated organ retrieval centre at Victoria Hospital will help scale up the organ donation program, benefiting underprivileged patients, said Medical Superintendent of Victoria Hospital Dr Deepak.

The centre will have dedicated staff, ICUs and beds. Once a family consents to organ donation, the patient will be transferred from ICUs to the designated facility, he added.

Functioning as a dedicated unit for collecting organs from deceased donors, the centre will provide comprehensive services, including ICU facilities, an operation theatre, a laboratory, and advanced diagnostic capabilities. The initiative coincides with the 125th anniversary of Victoria Hospital.

Suitcase murder: Police to seek custody of Rakesh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Hulimavu police are preparing to file a petition in court seeking the police custody of the accused, Rakesh Rajendra Khedekar, who is currently in judicial custody in connection with the alleged murder of his wife, whose body was found stuffed in a suitcase.

The body of Gauri Anil Sambrekar, a 32-year-old woman from Mumbai, was found inside a suitcase at her rented duplex house in Doddakammanahalli village in the Hulimavu police station limits, on March 27. Her husband, Rakesh, a software engineer, allegedly stabbed her to death, stuffed her body in the suitcase, and fled to Pune. He then allegedly attempted suicide in Pune and was admitted to a hospital there. After being discharged from the hospital, he was brought to Bengaluru on Saturday night. He was produced before the court, which remanded him to judicial custody.

According to police sources, Khedekar is in judicial custody in connection with his wife's murder. However, the police have not yet questioned him regarding the incident. To determine the exact reason for the murder, gather further evidence, and conduct a spot inspection, the police will file a petition seeking for his custody on Tuesday.

RCB'S HOMECOMING

Ahead of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's first home game against Gujarat Titans, cricket fans buy jerseys near Minsk Square on Monday | VINOD KUMAR T

Pillion rider dies as bike hits tree

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 25-year-old man from Assam died after the speeding bike he was riding pillion crashed into a roadside tree. The incident occurred near BEL Road in the Sadashivanagar traffic police station limits early Monday morning.

The deceased has been identified as Vijay Madaki (25). His friend, Suhail (20),from Meghalaya, who was riding the bike, sustained serious injuries and is undergoing treatment at a hospital. Both were working at a supermarket in BEL and were staying in the same building.

The police stated that Madaki and Suhail had gone to Shivajinagar to drink tea and later went shopping for clothes. While returning around 4.10 am, the rider lost control of the bike near the Ayyappa Swamy Temple on BEL road and crashed into a roadside tree. Both sustained serious injuries and were rushed to a nearby hospital, but Madaki was declared brought dead due to a severe head injury, the police said, adding that a case has been registered against Suhail. Speeding is the reason for the accident, the police said and are further investigating.

Rowdy-sheeter killed by friend in drunken brawl

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 34-year-old rowdy-sheeter was brutally killed by his friend in a drunken brawl. It is suspected that the rowdy-sheeter slapped his friend, and angered by this, the friend killed him. The incident took place in a deserted area near the Hebbagodi-Gollahalli Main Road on Sunday night.

The deceased has been identified as **Manja**, alias Nepali Manja. He had 12 cases against him, including two murder cases and one attempt to murder case. A rowdy sheet was opened against him in the Hebbagodi police station and he was also booked under the Goonda Act.

The police said that the incident took place between 10.40 pm and 10.50 pm on Sunday. Manja was residing with his family in Kunigal, Tumakuru district. He had come to Hebbagodi after being invited by his friends for the Ugadi festival. On Sunday afternoon, while drinking with his friends, Manja slapped one of them during an argument. Angered by this, the one who was slapped hatched a plan to kill him and later invited him for a drink in a deserted area in Gollahalli in the evening.

After drinking for a few hours, the accused attacked Manja with a machete and fled the scene after killing him. Three other friends, who were present at the spot also fled but later alerted the police.The police further said that the accused has been zeroed in on, and a manhunt has been launched.

Bengaluru Rural SP C K Baba visited the crime scene on Sunday night and said that the Hebbagodi police have registered a case and are investigating.

ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES IN KARNATAKA
(Regd.)(A.M.P.C.K)

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ADMISSION NOTICE FOR ENGINEERING COURSES

Online Application forms are invited from eligible candidates for ADMISSION to BE Course in the Member Colleges of the AMPCK for the academic year 2025-26. The Test (AMPCK UG CET 2025) would be held on **24-05-2025** at Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Interested candidates may visit the website of the AMPCK www.ampck.in for details, Online Application may be downloaded from the Association's website only with effect from **10.04.2025.**

Date: 01.04.2025 Sd/- President Sd/- Secretary

Gadag villagers thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for mentioning Gadag district's lake rejuvenation project in the 120th episode of his 'Mann Ki Baat', on Sunday. Yelishirunda, Kanavi and Hosur villagers distributed sweets and buttermilk after the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme. Villagers said that the PM gave them Ugadi and Ramzan gifts

Close to decade, urban poor yet to get govt houses

Siddu announced one lakh houses for urban poor scheme in his previous govt in 2016

ASHWINI M SRIPAD
@ Bengaluru

UNDER the chief minister's one lakh housing scheme for urban poor in Bengaluru, announced in 2016, not a single house has been handed over to beneficiaries.

Of the one lakh houses announced, the government has been able to take up the construction of 49,000 houses and of those, only 4,561 units are ready, states the Economic Survey report 2024-25 released by the government. The government is now planning to rope in private builders to take up the construction of the remaining 50,000 houses.

The scheme was announced by the previous Siddaramaiah government in 2016 and was taken up by the Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Ltd (RGHCL). The Economic Survey report stated that the scheme was to be a self-sustaining model for the construction of houses in and around Bengaluru for the economically weaker sections and other eligible poor on government land.

At present, the construction of multi-storeyed buildings (G+3 to S+14) with 48,950 dwelling units has been taken up in five taluks of Bengaluru Urban district in the first and second phases.

"Around 4,561 houses have been completed, while 4,030 houses are nearing completion, while remaining houses are under different stages of construction, incurring an expenditure of Rs 2,074.68 crore up to the end of December 2024," says the report. Housing Department sources said they have not handed over any houses and it is expected to be done by May this year.

When V Somanna was housing minister in 2022, the cost of each unit was around Rs 10.5 lakh, including state and central government subsidies. Over and above the subsidies, general category beneficiaries had to pay Rs 5 lakh, while SC/STs Rs 4.2 lakh. But with the cost escalating to Rs 11.20 lakh now, general category beneficiaries have to pay Rs 8.5 lakh and SC/STs Rs 7.70 lakh.

The beneficiaries are now struggling to arrange money for the houses. "Though a large amount is paid through subsidies by the state and central governments, beneficiaries have to pay the remaining amount. They are not getting loans from banks with their low CIBIL scores being one of the main reasons. The government is trying to get them loans through other means. Around 12,000 people applied for houses and the loan process of 1,800 beneficiaries is expected to be completed sometime," the source added.

Meanwhile, the government has geared up to construct remaining houses through public-private partnership. Here, government land will be given to private builders who will construct houses. RGHCL sources said they have chosen the Infrastructure Development Corporation Karnataka as technical advisor to prepare the feasibility report on sharing of houses. "We have 400 acres of land at different places in Bengaluru. Under the PPP model, land will be ours, while builders will do the entire construction. The houses will be shared between us, and IDECK will give recommendations," sources said.

In tête-à-tête with Rahul on April 3, CM may seek 2 more DCMs

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@Bengaluru

BESIDES advocating that he continue in his post, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is likely to propose the creation of two more posts of deputy chief ministers when he meets Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi on Thursday.

His sympathiser, AICC general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal, has ensured the meeting with Rahul in the new AICC office. "He (Siddaramaiah) knows that DCM D K Shivakumar could not be budged as KPCC president as long as Mallikarjuna Kharge is AICC president. Hence, in the interest of the party, he will propose the creation of more DCM posts ahead of polls to the local bodies, including ZPs/TPs," a Congress leader said.

Sidddaramaiah and Rahul will have a one-on-one meeting for about half an hour during which the former will strongly present his case to continue as CM after two-and-a-half years of his tenure. "Siddaramaiah's continuation will depend on Rahul's decision and his Man Friday Venugopal will have a say," said another Congress leader.

Siddarmaiah would also explain to Rahul the advantages of creating two more DCM posts -- one for a member from the Veerashaiva-Lingayat community and another for an SC. The issue of DCM and KPCC president D K Shivakumar's alleged statement on changing the constitution to grant 2B quota for muslims had embarrassed the high command and on that, Siddaramaiah is likely to capitalise.

Besides being DCM, Shivakumar holding key portfolios — water resources and Bengaluru development —has not gone well with the CM's supporters who want someone else as KPCC president. "Kharge, who is both LoP in Rajya Sabha and AICC president, will back Shivakumar to continue as KPCC president in the interest of the party in the local bodies polls," a source said. It has to be seen whether Siddaramaiah discusses the alleged honey-trap attempt on his cabinet colleague K N Rajanna and the alleged 'supari' killing plot on the latter's MLC son Rajendra.

Members of the Muslim community hold placards against the Union government's Waqf Board Amendment Bill after offering prayers on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr at the Mysore Road Eidgah Maidan in Bengaluru on Monday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Black armband protest against Waqf Bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

MEMBERS of the Muslim community across Karnataka, who celebrated Eid-ul-Fitr on Monday, wore black armbands as a mark of protest against the Union Government's Waqf (Amendment) Bill.

The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) had urged Muslims to wear black armbands while offering the prayers on Eid.

Housing and Minority Welfare Minister BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan and his son and actor Zaid Khan were seen wearing black armbands while praying at the Eidgah Grounds in Chamarajpet, Bengaluru, on Monday. Hajj Minister Rahim Khan also sported the armband during prayers in Bidar.

Speaking to the media, Zameer said that they were wearing the black armbands following the instructions of the leaders from the community to oppose the Waqf Bill and it was done nationwide. He said that the Waqf Act has existed since the British era and should not be amended. To send this message, the community has marked its protest peacefully by wearing black bands, he said. He further said that during the last Assembly session, the Congress government in Karnataka also decided not to support the Bill.

Following the call given by the AIMPLB, people had attended the 'Alvida Jumma' (last Friday of Ramzan), wearing black bands.

Shakti encourages women labour force participation: Survey

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Kalaburagi

SINCE its implementation, the state government's Shakti scheme (free travel for women) has become a positive catalyst for women's empowerment and economic contribution, according to a survey. The survey found that both the female labor force participation rate and female worker participation rate have increased in Karnataka after the implementation of the scheme.

The survey was conducted by the Fiscal Policy Institute (by research fellow Anusha Sangondimath), Fare-Free Public Transit and Women's Economic Participation (Just Job Network) and Shakthi Guarantee Scheme Survey (M2M Media Network) on the initiation taken by Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation.

The agencies questioned 25,925 persons in 112 Assembly constituencies on various aspects with regard to the scheme from September 20, 2024, to October 15, 2024. The report was made available to Express on Monday.

The report found that the female labor force participation, which was 25.3 % before the Shakthi scheme, increased to 30.2% on the date of the survey. Similarly, the worker participation rate, which was 27.6 % prior to the scheme, increased to 28.8 %. As many as 64.43 % of the respondents felt that the free travel facility in government buses in Karnataka is a good initiative taken by the government, and 55.27 % of the women said that before implementation of the scheme, they used to travel in private buses and now they have shifted to government buses.

The survey revealed that 57.45 % women said the introduction of the scheme has helped them save money that they can now use for other purposes. As many as 48.33% respondents felt that the benefit of free travel given to women has helped the entire household. Interestingly, the survey found that a number of women took to traveling unnecessarily after the implementation of the scheme.

In conclusion, the report felt that women's positive perception of the scheme has grown over time. The approval rate has increased from 57% to 64% . Women's altered transportation habits rose from 80% to 85 %, contingent on government bus availability. Daily usage surged from 20% to 27% and weekly usage declined slightly from 46% to 38%. Men's belief that the scheme led to unnecessary travel reduced marginally from 72% to 71%.

The scheme has enabled better access to medical care and education for the family members of women, and it has enabled them to have more disposable income, the survey has found. The survey also said that the scheme is perceived as a positive catalyst for women's empowerment and economic contribution with 73% of the surveyed women feeling that the scheme has encouraged them to travel, search for jobs and contribute to the country's economy.

The report noted that the scheme generates a considerable amount of GST from the amount saved on conveyance, which is the revenue for the government. With an increase in traffic revenue, bus corporations are moving towards achieving self-sufficiency in their operations and the government's burden on providing subsidies to RTCs is also reduced. As the scheme becomes mature, more social benefits can be seen, and increased female visibility in public places and participation in social and economic activities, the survey said.

The report suggested that the government release the balance amount under the scheme to the corporations. The scheme has contributed 2.55% to Karnataka's SGST collection in 2023-24.

EXPRESS READ

A series of BJP protests to target Cong govt

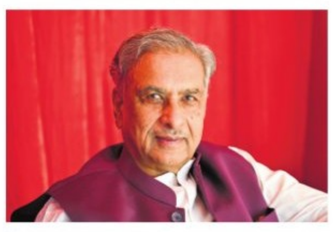
Bengaluru: The BJP is planning a series of protests against the state government over price hikes, reservation for Muslims in government contracts and diversion of scheduled caste sub-plan and tribal sub-plan funds for the guarantee schemes. BJP state president BY Vijayendra told media persons that a day-and-night protest against price hikes by the Congress government will start at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Wednesday. On Saturday, BJP workers will take to the streets in all district centres and taluks across the state. After this, the party will launch a statewide awareness campaign -- Janakrosha Yatra -- from Mysuru on April 7. In every district, they will have a 2-3 km padayatra (foot march), followed by a public gathering addressed by BJP leaders. The BJP leader said the party will fight against the government's policies and urge it to reconsider its decisions. ENS

MLC posts: Cong seeks polls strategist advice?

Bengaluru: With lobbying turning intense for the nomination to the four vacant MLC posts, the Congress high command has reportedly sought the assistance of its strategist for the 2023 Assembly polls in Karnataka, Sunil Kanugolu. Kanugolu would shortlist the names of those who would help the party's organisation and fetch the votes in future polls, according to sources. But speaking to TNIE over phone, Kanugolu categorically denied that he was being given the task. After the 2023 Assembly polls, Kanugolu was rewarded with the CM's advisor's post. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is likely to get the high command nod for the nominations during his four-day visit to the national capital on April 2. Some aspirants have been meeting him at his residence in Bengaluru for a couple of days and are likely to visit New Delhi as well. ENS

Horatti stays firm on resigning as Council chair

BR UDAYA KUMAR @Sakleshpur



EXPRESSING unhappiness at the loss of valuable time with legislators focusing only on the alleged honey-trap issue during the recent Assembly session, Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti questioned the behaviour of some of his colleagues.

Speaking during a private visit here, he said he never expected that political leaders could insult the temple of democracy in such a manner by throwing papers at the Speaker's chair in the Assembly.

Reiterating that he is planning to tender his resignation as Council chairman, Horatti said, "Politics has changed. We cannot compare the olden days of political chivalry to the current scenario. I have discussed this with many leaders and legislators and have expressed my decision in this regard. Many legislators also promised to rectify their mistakes."

He said political leaders just spend money and win elections. "They just sit in Bengaluru. When questions are raised in the House, there's no one to give answers.

Morality among the elected representatives has been sliding. We cannot expect good governance from leaders till they stop purchasing votes," he added. "Unfortunately, we cannot discriminate between junior and senior legislators in the House. All are the same after they enter the Assembly. Now, the juniors aren't listening and do not respect the seniors," he said.

Stressing the importance of proper training for new legislators on how to speak, act and behave in the House, Horatti said opposition leaders and legislators should know how to respect the Speaker and chairman of the legislature.

BANDIPUR NIGHT TRAFFIC

Activists to approach courts if govt lifts ban

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mysuru

WILDLIFE activists have decided to launch a protest and approach the courts if the state government lifts the night traffic ban on the national highway passing through the Bandipur Tiger Reserve. The activists met at Melukamanahalli in Bandipur on Monday and visited Moolhole, Maddur and Mutanga near Wayanad, taking note of the vehicles passing through the check-posts.

They found that trucks permitted to carry 15 tonnes of material were violating the Transport and Mines Act by carrying 40 tonnes of M-sand and boulders. If such regulations are violated during the day, the activists expressed apprehension that many will take advantage at night and indulge in illegal transport. They resolved to put up a united show if Kerala continues to put pressure on Karnataka to lift the night traffic ban.

Activist Joseph Hoover said tipper movement has increased on the national highway and were transporting construction material in violation of the transport and mines regulations, posing a threat to the forest. He said night traffic will pose a threat to wild animals and lead to man-animal conflicts in villages falling in the forest fringes.

The activists felt the need to educate people in villages, organise farmers to take out a massive rally and approach the courts with a petition appealing to continue the night traffic ban.

They wanted to present an overview of the Bandipur forest and the threat faced by the growing traffic and decline in man-animal conflict over the years so that the courts can take them into consideration to continue the night traffic ban and conserve the wildlife and forest.

MLC SUPARI PLOT: 3, INCLUDING WOMAN, TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

Bengaluru: The Tumakuru police have taken three people into custody in connection with the alleged 'supari' (contract) killing plot targeting MLC Rajendra, son of Cooperation Minister K N Rajanna. According to sources, three persons, including a woman Puspa, who had revealed the plot hatched by one of the five accused, Soma, to Rajendra's supporter Rocky, were taken into custody. The 18-minute audio tape of their conversation had revealed certain details about the alleged murder plot. Puspa was acquainted with Soma of Jayapura and got information about the latter's plan and his nexus with Bengaluru-based 'influential persons' who gave him Rs 5 lakh out of Rs 75 lakh to hack Rajendra to death. ENS

Not joining Cong in this life or next, says Yatnal

PRAMODKUMAR VAIDYA
@Hubballi

AFTER his meeting with a local Congress leader set tongues wagging that he may jump ship, expelled BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal strongly dismissed these claims, stating that he would never join the Congress "either in this life or the next."

The rumours gained traction after images and videos of Yatnal meeting Dharwad District Congress Committee (Rural) president Anilkumar Patil surfaced on social media, sparking widespread speculation about his possible alignment with the Congress. This speculation was fuelled by recent remarks by Congress MLA Raju Kage, who suggested that he might try to bring Yatnal into the party if the high command gives the nod.

Expelled BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal meets Dharwad DCC president Anilkumar Patil near Hiriyur

The two leaders reportedly met at a hotel near Hiriyur in Tumakuru district recently, where they are said to have had a brief 20-minute conversation about the political scenario following Yatnal's expulsion from the BJP. However, a senior Congress leader quickly dismissed any connection between Yatnal and the party.

Anilkumar clarified that the meeting was purely casual. "We just happened to be in the same hotel. As I am originally from Vijayapura district, I know Yatnal. We had a quick snack together, but no political discussions took place," he said.

Meanwhile, speaking to the media in Koppal, Yatnal addressed the rumours directly, stating, "I will never join the Congress in this life," and criticised Congress for being "pro-Muslim." He also claimed that the rumours of his potential move to Congress were part of a smear campaign orchestrated by fake BJP social media accounts, which he suggested were influenced by BJP state president B Y Vijayendra.

Yatnal hinted that he and his supporters were gauging public opinion on the possibility of starting his political party. "If the BJP fails to remove Yediyurappa and Vijayendra, forming a new party is guaranteed in the coming months," he said. He also mentioned that rebel BJP leaders, including Ramesh Jarkiholi and Kumar Bangarappa, stand by him.

Yatnal continued his attack on Yediyurappa and his son, alleging that they profited significantly during the Covid-19 pandemic. He accused them of causing his expulsion from the BJP. "The BJP does not care for Hindus," Yatnal added.

IMD has predicted widespread rainfall across Kerala on Thursday and Friday. The agency has issued yellow alerts in Palakkad, Malappuram and Wayanad on Thursday, and in Ernakulam and Thrissur on Friday

SRH COMPLAINS

T'gana vigilance probe over free IPL tickets issue

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

A high-stakes controversy has engulfed the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) over allegations of blackmailing the Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) IPL team management for free tickets. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has ordered a vigilance probe into the matter.

The controversy erupted after the 2016 IPL champions' general manager Srinath TB accused HCA president Jagan Mohan Rao of coercive tactics for complimentary tickets before Hyderabad's IPL match with Lucknow at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Uppal on March 27. Allegations are that HCA office bearers harassed and blackmailed SRH for 20 free tickets forcing the SRH management to write a letter to HCA threatening that it will move out of Hyderabad.

In response, the HCA announced that Jagan Mohan Rao will not participate in meetings with HCA officials during the IPL Season 2025.

The controversy surrounds the allocation of complimentary tickets, with the HCA stating that they received only 3,880 tickets, not 3900. "Mr A Jagan Mohan Rao, president, HCA, did not make any personal request to block 3,900 tickets per match for his purchase," the HCA's response to SRH stated.

"Please do not distort facts as 3,900 complimentary tickets were never handed over to HCA but only 3,880 tickets were handed over. A demand for issuing the shortly supplied balance 20 complimentary tickets cannot be stretched to state that the president, HCA, demanded 20 free tickets. Your claim that you were informed that the President, HCA has instructed for the return of 20 tickets for F-12 A Box is a baseless manipulation intended to malign him. HCA was given only 3880 complimentary tickets ... you are incorrectly projecting the request to supply the balance 20 tickets as threat, blackmail and coercion," HCA's mail to SRH's Srinath read.

Vigilance and enforcement Director General Kothakota Sreenivasa Reddy will conduct the investigation.

EXPRESS READ

Central team meets Naidu on revival of steel plant

Vijayawada: In a significant step to revitalise Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), a delegation from the Ministry of Steel held discussions with Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu at his residence on Monday. Union Minister of State for Steel Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma was present. The discussions covered key priorities, including regular review of the steel plant's operations, and the reactivation of its third blast furnace alongside the two currently operational ones.

ZEALOUS DEVOTION

Devotees display their spiritual side during the Aswathy Kavutheendal ritual at Kodungallur Sreekurumba Bhagavathy temple on Monday | TP SOORAJ

Entry restrictions in Ooty, Kodaikanal from today

NILGIRIS: New restrictions on the number of tourist vehicles that will be allowed into Nilgiris and Kodaikanal will come into effect from Tuesday. According to a recent order of the Madras High Court, 6,000 vehicles will be allowed to enter the Nilgiris district during weekdays and 8,000 vehicles during weekends. Similarly, 4,000 vehicles per day on weekdays and 6,000 per day on weekends will be allowed to enter Kodaikanal in Dindigul district. The Nilgiris administration has issued an awareness poster directing the tourists to apply for the E-pass at https://epass.tnega.org.

Mysuru witnesses a massive decrease in foreign tourists

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

CALL it the failure of the authorities to tap the potential of heritage sites and tourist spots in Mysuru to draw more international visitors or the lack of interest among the foreigners, the City of Palaces is witnessing a significant drop in the number of foreign visitors over the last couple of months.

Despite a post-Covid-19 pandemic revival in tourism, recent trends indicate a sharp decline in international travellers, raising concerns among industry stakeholders.

According to sources, 3 lakh to 3.25 lakh foreign tourists visit Mysuru district every financial year. However, the number did not even cross 2 lakh last year. A combination of factors, including inadequate infrastructure, and lack of promotional efforts are believed to be deterring visitors. If we take

Mysuru Palace data, the number shows a decline. In 2016-17, the foreign tourists to Mysuru Palace was 64,614 which dropped to 34,604 in 2023-24 and in 2024 (till December 31), the number stood at 24,034. The pandemic had hit tourism in 2020, with only very few foreign visitors making it to Mysuru. The numbers plummeted further due to lockdowns.

A tourist guide at Mysuru Palace said that while a hike in ticket price is a reason, lack of promotion and planned tourist circuits for international travellers is another factor. "The absence of big events apart from Dasara, and no proper tourist circuit for them have further exacerbated the problem," he said.

MYS PALACE FOOTFALL OF FOREIGNERS	
FY 2015-16	68,370
2016-17	64,614
2017-18	54,293
2018-19	48,022
2019-20	51,074
2020-21	551
2021-22	1606
2022-23	23,168
2023-24	34,604
2024*	24,034

* From March till Dec 31

'NOT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT'

Consider citizenship plea of SL refugees' daughter: HC to Centre

R SIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

NOTING that the case of a 37-year-old woman, born in India to Sri Lankan refugee parents and married to an Indian citizen, presents a "unique circumstance" and holding that she cannot be considered an illegal immigrant, the Madras High Court has ordered the Union government to consider her application for Indian citizenship "on its own merits in accordance with the law", without deporting her from India.

The court also directed the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to treat her application as a special case to exempt her from applying through online portal, as the portal does not accept applications filed by persons with Sri Lankan background.

The Indian citizenship and passport granted to the woman (S Ramya), an employee of a private firm in Coimbatore, were revoked earlier by authorities, who insisted that she should go back to Sri Lanka and re-enter India legally with a valid visa before submitting an application. The revocation followed after authorities found her case to be in contravention of the provisions of the Citizenship Act.

The authorities found that she was born on December 24, 1987, while the Citizenship Act, as per a 1986 amendment, states that any person born in the country after July 1, 1987, cannot claim citizenship solely by birth if both the parents are not Indian nationals.

The order was passed by Justice D Bharatha Chakravarthy recently while disposing of a petition filed by Ramya, who got married to D Purushothaman, an Indian citizen, in 2014. The couple have a nine-year-old child. Ramya approached the court after Union government authorities concerned had initiated action to revoke her citizenship.

According to the petitioner, her grandfather hailed from Pudukkottai district in Tamil Nadu and later moved to Sri Lanka. After the ethnic violence in the island nation intensified in 1983, Ramya's parents returned to India by air and stayed in Coimbatore, where she was born on December 24, 1987. She was given a birth certificate by the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation and was treated as an Indian citizen. She was issued a passport and other identity documents, including voter ID, by the respective authorities. When her parents applied for extension of their registration to continue their stay in India, the officials, during scrutiny, found that Ramya was born after July 1, 1987, and took action to revoke her citizenship.

"The authorities noticed that according to the Citizenship Act, any person born in India after July 1, 1987, cannot claim Indian citizenship solely by virtue of birth; at least one of the parents must be a citizen of India at the time of birth. Therefore, suddenly, realising the mistake, the authorities have begun taking action," the judge said.

Sport, Youth & Cultural Activities Department
Government of Gujarat

सत्यमेव जयते
GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

Gujarat tourism

MADHAVPUR FAIR, 2025
1st to 10th April, 2025

Shri Krishna and Devi Rukmini's Marriage, Celebrating a Cross-Cultural Heritage!

Madhavpur Ghed, the sacred land of Shri Krishna and Devi Rukmini's divine wedding, comes alive with an annual awe-inspiring celebration of unity and heritage. Witness the depiction of Devi Rukmini's arrival in Gujarat and the elaborate wedding through folk songs and traditional dances. Come, celebrate this beautiful cultural spectacle, where the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' shines through the grandeur of a timeless fair. Madhavpur awaits you!

Enchanting performances by 1600 artists from the Northeastern States and Gujarat, at Madhavpur

Stalls of handicrafts & cuisines from Northeastern states

Sand art presentation and sports activities

6th to 10th April, 2025 6:00 PM
Madhavpur Ghed, District Porbandar, Gujarat

A Grand Cultural Performance Showcasing India's Unity by Artists from the Northeastern States and Gujarat

Surat
Date: 1st April, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM
Venue: Pandit Dindayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Athwalines

Vadodara
Date: 2nd April, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM
Venue: Akota Stadium

Ahmedabad
Date: 3rd April, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM
Venue: TransStadia, Eka Club, Kankaria

Somnath
Date: 5th April, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM
Venue: Somnath Temple

Devbhumi Dwarka
Date: 10th April, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM
Venue: Behind Government Circuit House

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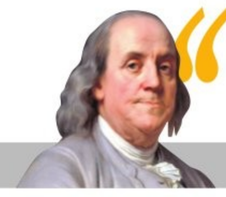
EDITORIAL



Freedom of speech is a principal pillar of a free government; when this support is taken away, the constitution of a free society is dissolved and tyranny is erected on its ruins

Benjamin Franklin

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

HOLD GOVT TO ACCOUNT, BUT DO NOT DISRUPT WORK OF ASSEMBLY

THE Congress has hogged the headlines for the better part of the Odisha assembly's budget session's second half. From persistent agitation on the floor of the House to the Vidhan Sabha gherao, the grand old party under Bhakta Charan Das, its new state chief, has presented a rare united face. On the night of March 25, the day Speaker Surama Padhy suspended 12 of its members for unruly behaviour, almost all senior leaders of Congress showed up at the assembly gate to register their protest. Two days later, when the party workers fought a pitched battle with the police during the Sabha gherao, a new energy was apparent.

With 14 members in the 147-seat state legislature, the national party is a distant third behind the Biju Janata Dal, the main opposition party with 51 legislators. Yet, the Congress seems to be sensing an opportunity to steal a march over the regional outfit. The Naveen Patnaik-led BJD, still recovering from its poll debacle last year, has slipped into a protracted state of inertia. Such is its internal dynamics that the party looks spiritless to even play the role of the main opposition despite its strong numbers in the assembly.

All said, the role of the opposition in a democratic setup is crucial for holding the government of the day accountable. In Odisha, the BJP is close to completing its first year and the opposition parties must use the legislative process and time well to ensure the new administration remains transparent, efficient and delivers the public goods. The speaker said the second phase of the budget session saw 12 business days, during which 39 hours were lost to disruptions, and just eight questions could be discussed during the question hour. The Congress must not just use the void created by BJD only to shore up its fortunes. Serving party interests must come second to working for the people who elect their representatives with the great hope of improving their lives. The assembly is the very place where the issues of public interest can be raised and the government forced into action. Continuous disruption and stalling the House for almost the whole session is not the way; having a constructive approach while playing a forceful opposition is the right path.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP DESERVES BIGGER VENUES

AT BCCI's apex council meeting ahead of this year's IPL opener, one of the things on the agenda was to shortlist venues for the upcoming Women's ODI World Cup to be held in India later this year. The shortlisted cities included Guwahati, Raipur, Visakhapatnam, Mullanpur and Indore. Barring Visakhapatnam, the other cities are yet to host a women's ODI—and even at Visakhapatnam, the last women's international game was held a decade ago. Guwahati has hosted three T20Is, but the remaining centres have never hosted the Indian women's team.

This is in contrast to the last few women's World Cups across formats. Since 2017, women's ODI and T20 world cup finals have been hosted at iconic stadiums including the Lord's in England, the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the Hagley Oval in New Zealand and Newlands in Cape Town. The last time India hosted a Women's ODI World Cup, in 2013, the final was held at the Brabourne Stadium, Mumbai—a venue that is used for the Women's Premier League. The 2016 T20 WC final was played at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

The women's game has come a long way. Since the inception of the WPL, India women have played in Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Rajkot. And most of these venues have seen large crowds, including more than 45,000 people filling the D Y Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. While there is some merit in the BCCI taking the women's game to smaller centres, the lack of familiarity and accessibility to some of the venues will not help. At a time the women's game is getting more popular than ever, what is easily the most coveted trophy in the women's sport needed a fitting stage. If the BCCI was serious in taking the WC to the chosen smaller centres, they could have used the 2025 WPL to promote the sport there. However, not all is written on the wall yet. The WC qualifiers are yet to take place and Pakistan qualifying will change things up, with them playing in the UAE or Sri Lanka on the agreed terms. That would also mean that the tournament, played in the round-robin format, will have to be scheduled accordingly. And with the time at hand, the cricket board might want to reconsider the venues and give the tournament the attention and stage it deserves.

QUICK TAKE

THOU SHALT BE JUDGED

THE Western world should hang its head in shame that it's allowing one country to keep targeting medical workers, journalists and children. The UN humanitarian affairs office has said that Israeli forces have killed 15 Palestinian Red Crescent paramedics and civil defence workers who had gone to rescue injured colleagues in Rafah in cold blood, "one by one". Jonathan Whittall, head of the UN office, said, "We're digging them out in their uniforms, with their gloves on." Other investigations have established Israel's wilful targeting of children and journalists. Like after the Second World War, in the final reckoning, the abettor would be judged as mercilessly as the perpetrator.

Marketing companies are waking up to the new reality that the small is slowly replacing the big, as customers are realising less is more. This minimalism is rattling brands

OLD BRANDS TUMBLE AS CONSUMERS CHASE THE BARE ESSENTIALS

HARISH BIJOOR

Brand Guru and Founder, Harish Bijoor Consults

MANDAR PARDIKAR

MARKETING in India is shedding its clothes. Brands are going 'naked'. The more clothes you wear, the less appealing you are. The more you shed, the more you are loved. That's the new trend I spotted in the initial months of 2025. The big brands of yesteryears are buckling, and their brand volumes are tumbling in double-digit percentages all of a sudden. This is jolting the marketing company of yore. Add to it the other big jolt for companies of not being able to take the customary annual price increases they have so gotten used to, and corporate boardrooms are in a tizzy of summer discontent. This is the biting reality today.

Brands are on the morph. This morph is more of the making of the consumer out there in the great Indian market. The consumer is today quite bored with brands. Branding has been around as a subject of immense involvement for the last three decades. Consumers have lived with brands, logos, colours, slogans, packaging, package-sizes, prices, discounts, offers of every kind, and more.

With high-decibel exposure to all this over a reasonably long period, aggressively marketed brands are suddenly very boring. Very predictable in what they do next. Very predictive in the algorithm they lay out to get the consumer in. The big brands that clutter your bathroom, bedroom, kitchen, and your outdoors are looking rather pedantic and predictive. That skin cream has a brand name that is so predictable. It represents the generic category even. It's so boring. It's so 2024.

Advertising has done the branding movement no good as well. Brands have used every allure there is to dangle. Not once, but time and again. The USP (unique selling point) as a device has been exhausted in intent. The 'Big Idea' of the brand has been flogged to 'deathness'. Brand positioning stances have been taken through the laundromat of public acceptance to a point of cynicism. Brands are therefore overdone. Overdone even to the point of consumer annoyance.

The consumer today is sitting up and wondering whether he, she, or they are an idiot. Am I such a moron that advertising dished out to me treats me as one? As consumers wake up to this sentiment one fine morning, they do a quick audit of what they buy and use. All of a sudden, every brand seems to be screaming some degree of inanity or the other at me.

There are just too many words out here, too many creative hooplas, too much semantic wordplay even. Everything is complex and complicated. What has happened to the simple anyways? I, as a consumer, need to be super intelligent and complex to even keep pace with what brands are up to. Brands are hard work today. And after all this hard work, I am treated as a moron?

Consumers are sitting up and smelling the burn. Even as they do, they are making overnight changes. Quick and sudden changes that are giving the mass-marketer a jitter or two, if not more. Your wife is replacing her entire, elaborate bathroom shelf with names unknown. The known brands of yore are so boring. They are stuck in a time warp of their own.

Little-known names are replacing the big names all of us know, are reminded about everyday on the hoardings en-route to our workplace, and advertised widely. Minimalist is not only a name, it is a movement. The gaudy and in-the-face large packaging is being replaced by the medicinal and the sedate. Brands of cosmetics just don't look like they used to before (just 20 days ago). The less known a brand name, the more unique it must be. The less-advertised, the better. The more word-of-mouth and its digital cousin, word-of-digital, the better.

All of a sudden, the big brands from the biggest of MNCs are looking like rationshop brands and are suddenly boxed into the "not-for-me" category. Brand loyalty is such a "yesterday thingie". It was a 'situationship' customers found themselves in. As options emerge, time for mass consumers to go niche. Mass consumers are climbing into the cocoons of the niche being offered to them by not one, but the many.

Small is suddenly beautiful again. The beauty of it is that small is different. Small is not belligerent. Small is nifty. Small delivers more of what the big have been promising to. The small and different brands of today embody within their DNA the differentiation that sets them apart. These are brands that are good for you, the consumer. They are consumer-driven brands. They are brands that are ahead of the consumer-want curve. They are literally consumer-curated brands that fulfill not the basics but much more.

Marketers have typically climbed the hierarchy of consumer needs, wants, desires and aspirations. These new age small offerings are at the bleeding edge of consumer 'fantasy'. And that's a new top rung item that I add to the non-conventional marketers toolkit. Understanding the realms of consumer fantasy that even the customer is still discovering, is where the bleeding-edge branding science lives and thrives today.

Brands are therefore shedding their clothes. The less you wear, the less opaque you are. Brands get to be more transparent in what they offer. More real. The product becomes the hero once again as opposed to the brand advertised by celebrities (but seldom used by them). Even the brand names are telling a story. Minimalist tells it loud and clear. The Whole Truth Foods, as opposed to the "half-truths" that the brands of yore have become, or are portrayed to be.

Brand nakedness is the new mantra. Less is more. More transparent is the new way to be. Most of these new brands live in a space of their own making. These are not mass-distributed brands. Instead they are D2C offerings that depend on the seamless power of D2C distribution for a start. They begin in the niche, dominate the niche and want the niche to drive the future of brand franchise, loyalty and consumption.

All of marketing and indeed all of life is cyclical. In the beginning was the commodity. It was the base product. Naked. Less processed. Low cost. Real. And then came the quasi-brand. Categories of rice that were promoted to be better-tasting than the rest. And then came packaged rice with a brand name that you ran after. With time, brands are now telescoping back to what they were. A quasi-brand. Lesser known. Differentiated. Showcasing the real as opposed to the unreal. And with the quasi-brand movement emerges the naked brand. Brands are going naked now. Naked is in! *(Views are personal)*

(harishbijoor@hotmail.com)

THE WILLING MARTYR OF COMEDY

C P SURENDRAN

Poet, novelist, and screenplay writer. His latest novel is *One Love and the Many Lives of Osip B*

IN the grand circus of Indian democracy, where the trapeze artists of power swing between sanctimony and savagery, Kunal Kamra, literally armed with a mic and a metaphoric mirror, has chosen to fall, missing the net. The mic is for him. The mirror is for us.

His offence this time? A line delivered with the almost callous candour of a street poet: "I am ready to lose everything but not ready to lose my spine like Eknath Shinde did when he betrayed Uddhav Thackeray and became Maharashtra deputy CM." The word 'betrayal' undid the evening. As a result, writers like me get to repeat the charge.

This writer included, the spine in our existential and political transactions is often missing. The fear of offending—I live in this fear in every word I write. Contemporary civilisation is little more than the nagging fear that someone, somewhere has taken offence at my writing. The fear was installed in our lives by liberals and wokes, but increasingly resorted to by the right wing.

Shinde is powerful enough to ignore the jibe. Instead, his people vandalised the venue in Mumbai, where the scene of the tragi-comedy occurred—as if the place, not the person, was responsible for the loud guffaws, knowing smirks.

Coming to think of it, it was not even a great joke. It was just a kind of truth that guides Indian politics. Recall the casual frequency with which elected representatives change their colours and parties.

And so, the erstwhile—undivided—Shiv Sena, now a relic of its former sons-of-the-soil self of the early 1960s, didn't appreciate the humour. Instead, they laid the venue to waste. One supposes it is by destruction of property that one reaches out to touch the personality.

If we can't laugh, if a person can't be held responsible for the act, at least the place he delivered his sermon from would be altered. The state government has a FIR slapped on Kamra, too

Kamra is no stranger to this tango. He once taunted a famous fellow passenger, Arnab Goswami, at 30,000 feet above ground level, and sent up others. Each time, the script repeats: outrage, threats, invocation of the law. These are precisely the reactions Kamra wants, because all these are a form of appreciation for a comedian.

But Kamra is more ambitious than most comedians. He wants to be a martyr. The only Indian comedian who would gladly die to make you laugh.

The opposite of comedy is not tragedy. It is silence. In silence, comedy perishes. The kind of destruction that Shinde's followers unleashed is a vindication of what Kamra said. With this latest instalment of violence, Shinde has guaranteed the return of a larger crowd for Kamra and his friends the next time they crack a joke at the expense of right-wing leaders.

PTI

A joke can swiftly scalp to the bone. The Shinde Sena's response to the jibe at its leader—vandalism, death threats and demands for contrition—betrays the wound's depth. Kunal Kamra is more ambitious than most comedians in his portrayal as one who would gladly die to make you laugh

On top of the violence that the Sainiks unleashed, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, sniffing a chance to flex its hypertrophied muscles, swung hammers at "illegal sheds" outside the club, as if broken mortar could bury a quip in retrospect.

Reportedly, over 500 calls—some offering to carve him into confetti—jammed Kamra's phone, turning him into a kind of Christ of humour. A man who would mock you even if it killed him. Kamra wants to be the clown among the jokers, a kite among hawks.

Still, what is it about a comedian? Laughter, though fluffy, is the stuff of surgical steel. A joke scalps to the bone of things very swiftly. "I am ready to lose everything but not..." The joke cut through the armour of Shinde, the man who split the Sena in 2022, toppling Uddhav Thackeray to have a go at the CM's chair.

Kamra's words echo a betrayal still raw in the Maharashtra government's gut. The Sena's response—vandalism, death threats, a whining demand for contrition—betrays the wound's depth. The irony's rich enough to gag on. Uddhav Thackeray, once the Sena's roaring lion, now purrs in Kamra's corner. "A traitor is a traitor," he intones, savouring the chance to claw at Shinde's flank. Aaditya Thackeray dubs it "100 percent truth," as if comedy craves a notary's stamp of approval.

This is not all about free speech, though Kamra drapes himself in its frayed banner. It is about Kamra wanting attention big time as well. He would like to be crowned the Clown of India. This is a dangerous status to aspire to in a country divided between the Left elite and their genteel bleeding-heart ways, and the peanut-crunching, humourless Right.

True to his nature, Kamra has doubled down. "Perhaps my next venue will be Elphinstone Bridge," he says, invoking the span as shaky as the state's tolerance. It's a kind of gallows humour befitting the farce of Indian politics, where right after an election, MLAs and MPs are kidnapped and confined to resorts by their leaders so that they cannot be bribed into changing sides. This alone makes Indian politics a joke.

This country is a joke because it cannot take one—a place where a jester's teeth meet the mob's hammer, where the dissent of laughter is treason and silence a virtue. Shinde will weather this joke, his throne intact, his foes battered. Nevertheless, Kamra's mirror flashes in the sun, reflecting a nation too afraid to face itself head-on. As a nation, we prefer decorum over truth. That, dear reader, is the punchline no one's laughing at.

(Views are personal)

(cpsurendran@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Ensure transparency

Ref: SEBI should shed lenity to shore up its hurt image (Mar 31). The article rightly highlights the need for regulators to be impartial and effective. The present Sebi chief's admission of lapses is welcome, as is the move to address conflicts of interest. Sebi must ensure fairness and transparency without regulatory overkill.

Jose Abraham, Vaikom

Ominous prologue

Ref: *Ukraine is not an easy nut to crack* (Mar 31). Europe is bracing for conflict with Russia as the US withdraws support for Ukraine. European nations are boosting defence spending to enhance preparedness. People are turning homes into bunkers. It appears to me that the world is slowly edging towards World War 3.

R S Narula, Patiala

Instilling values

Ref: *Timeless tales that enrich the festive fervour* (Mar 31). The column highlights how values are instilled in childhood through stories. Today's materialistic rat race, academic pressure, and lack of storytelling turn children into robots, devoid of human values. As Friedrich Froebel said, "Let us live for children."

Prema P, Thanjavur

Myanmar aid

Ref: *Navy mobilises two more warships with relief materials for Myanmar* (Mar 31). It was heartbreaking to read about the quakes in Myanmar and Thailand that have left thousands dead. However, even amid this hardship, the junta continues its attacks on rivals. Glad to read about India's generous aid contribution. I feel that better urban planning could have mitigated the devastation.

D V G Sankara Rao, Vizianagaram

AI training

Ref: *TN to introduce AI, coding for classes 6-9 starting 2025-26* (Mar 31). TN-SCERT's decision to introduce AI education at an early stage is groundbreaking. This initiative sets a precedent for other states, equipping students with future-ready skills, unlocking global job opportunities, and driving economic, scientific and societal progress.

P V Prakash, Mumbai

Medical milestone

Ref: *A cut above: Stanley performs 100th liver transplant* (Mar 31). Congratulations to Stanley Medical College Hospital, Chennai, on this remarkable milestone. This is a significant achievement. The entire medical team deserves a lot of praise for their dedication.

S Ramakrishnasayee, Chennai

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Chandra Shekhar Aazad @BhimArmyChief
Custodial deaths of Bahujans have become common in UP . Has the Yogi government and the UP police unleashed a genocide against Bahujans?

Supriya Shrinate @SupriyaShrinate
Whether doubling farmers' income or 2 crore jobs per year or the slogan of 100 smart cities – schemes were brought with much fanfare, but in reality they failed

Tejashwi Yadav @yadavtejashwi
Has there been a Taliban govt in Bihar for 20 years? If there is nothing in the name of achievement, then throw anything.

'NDA WILL FIGHT POLLS UNDER NITISH LEADERSHIP'

During 21st edition of **Delhi Dialogue**, JD(U) leader Sanjay Kumar Jha says Bihar has made remarkable progress in law & order, women empowerment

SANJAY Kumar Jha, working national president of JD(U) and Rajya Sabha MP, is considered one of the key architects of Nitish Kumar's return to the NDA fold. The JNU alumnus was a three-time minister in Bihar and led the state's efforts to tackle the recurring flood and worked to enhance agricultural productivity.

He says Bihar has made tremendous progress in various aspects under the leadership of Nitish Kumar and that the state's rural roads are in much better shape than Delhi's. "Things have changed significantly. From a state of complete disorder, Nitish Kumar steered Bihar towards development, and those who visit the state today can witness the transformation. Roads, law and order, power supply, and many other aspects have improved greatly," says Jha.

The JD(U) parliamentary party leader in the RS seeks to remind the days before 2005. "We must remember what Bihar was until 2005. What were the conditions of roads, power, and law and order then? It is important to remember the legacy Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inherited from the rule of his predecessors that lasted till 2005."

Jha says Bihar has performed remarkably well on women's empowerment. "Previously, less than 5% of women in Bihar were elected as mukhiyas (panchayat heads). Today, over 51% of mukhiyas are women. "It is a big thing because everyone has to go to the mukhiyas," he says. Nitish Kumar introduced the cycle scheme, which encouraged girls to attend school. Under the NDA government, he also advanced women's empowerment through the 'Jeevika' initiative. Bihar has the highest number of female police officers in the country. An agricultural roadmap has been implemented, and water has reached the homes of poor families. With a double-engine government in place, Bihar is now focused on attracting investment and expanding its industrial sector.

SHEKHAR YADAV

Santwana Bhattacharya: Bihar has a vast workforce at different levels but has not developed to the desired level. Why is that?
Bihar has made remarkable progress despite limited resources. We brought in a competent government under the capable leadership of Nitish Kumar. He took charge when many had lost hope in the state's revival and set it on a path to progress. He has delivered a visible success story alongside his government partners across various sectors. Bihar's per capita income has also increased. We are tackling Bihar's flood issues systematically, given that two-thirds of the state is flood-prone. Under the previous Lalu Prasad government, cabinet meetings were rarely held. We have made significant improvements across multiple parameters —education, health, agriculture, law and order, and flood management. The only area where we have not yet met our target is investment. However, we are optimistic that we will make significant progress in attracting investment and developing tourism in the next five years.

Rajesh Kumar Thakur: How do you foresee the NDA's performance in the coming Assembly elections?
Let me be clear. Journalists in Delhi often have a different perception of Bihar, and their predictions consistently prove incorrect when the results come in. The NDA will secure a far better outcome and a comfortable majority in the next assembly elections, as people now prioritise development over lawlessness, casteism, and poverty.

Preetha Nair: Will you continue with the NDA if the BJP decides to appoint its own CM?
We are very much part of the NDA and have always been with the alliance. Leadership is clearly defined at both the state and national levels. We will contest the Assembly elections under Nitish Kumar's leadership.

Preetha Nair: Muslim groups in Bihar are fiercely opposed to the proposed Waqf Bill. They have warned - either support the bill or lose our support. Do you think this will impact your prospects?
When the bill was introduced, Nitish Kumar held wide consultations with all Muslim bodies and heard their concerns. Those concerns were conveyed to the JPC, which examined the Waqf Bill. They have accommodated our concerns.

Santwana Bhattacharya: It is often said that Nitish Kumar is almost a permanent CM in Bihar — he is the face of the state. Is there a possibility of him continuing, or is there a chance of next-generation leadership, given the speculation about his son's entry into politics?
He is the leader of this party, JD(U). Currently, he remains the leader of both the party and the alliance. What happens in the future is for him to decide.

To date, there has been no discussion about a change in leadership within the party. He has been CM for the past 20 years and enjoys the people's trust. He seeks votes based on his work and has never used caste or religious narratives to secure votes. In this election as well, we — the NDA, led by JD(U) — will seek votes based on the work accomplished in the state. Nitish Kumar's association with the BJP has been long-standing, except for a few brief interruptions.

DELHI Dialogues

Rajesh Kumar Thakur: Do you think JD(U) will improve its electoral position in this election?
Certainly, the JD(U) will strengthen its numerical position, as the state has witnessed significant development under the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government. We recently won Belaganj bye-election, first time in 30 years. People now realise that the Union and state governments are working towards Bihar's development.

Rajesh Kumar Thakur: What is JD(U)'s stance on the One Nation, One Election?
We favour it, and Nitish Kumar has long advocated for it. Frequent elections create many challenges. I am also a member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on this issue. We believe ONOE is not a new concept — it was practised in the past. If implemented, it would be beneficial for the country.

Mayank Singh: Bihar has conducted a caste census. Will you advocate for a nationwide caste census?
As a party, our stance is clear — Nitish Kumar carried out the caste census while JD(U) was part of the INDIA alliance. We conducted it and made the findings public. Nitish Kumar had also advocated for it at INDIA bloc meetings, but no one responded. We took the initiative and released the data. In contrast, the Congress government in Karnataka has conducted a caste census but is yet to release the results. Bihar, however, has set an example by making the findings public.

Preetha Nair: What is your party's stance on delimitation?
As of now, no such proposal has been presented. How can we comment on it without reviewing any formal proposal? We have read in the news that Home Minister Amit Shah has stated there will be no harm to states due to delimitation.

Rijiju says govt fully prepared to table Waqf bill in Parliament

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

DAYS after Home Minister Amit Shah's assertion that the amended Waqf Bill will be tabled in Parliament session, Minority Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Monday said that the government is fully prepared to table the Bill in Parliament.

The government said it will discuss with different party leaders the timing for the Bill's introduction. It is likely to be first introduced in the Lower House, probably on Wednesday. He said the timing of the bill's introduction will be decided followingconsultations.

In a reference to the Opposition and Muslim bodies, Rijiju said some political parties and organizations are resorting to lies to mislead society and create tensions, while insisting that the Bill is in the interest of Muslims.

Asked if all the NDA parties support the Bill, he claimed that not only the ruling alliance but many MPs of the INDIA bloc have urged him to table the proposed law quickly.

Opposition strongly opposed the bill, slamming it as unconstitutional and against the interest of the Muslim community. Several leading Muslim organisations have been rallying support against the Bill, which was scrutinised by a Joint Committee of Parliament and approved with several amendments.

Oppn says bill against interest of Muslims

Opposition slammed the bill and said it is unconstitutional and against the interest of the Muslim community. Muslim organisations have been rallying support against the bill, which was scrutinised by a Joint Committee of Parliament and approved with several amendments.

Muslims were urged to wear black armbands during Ramzan and Eid to express their opposition to the proposed law, he said, asserting that inciting them to hit the streets is not good for the country.

Rijiju said it is being alleged that the government will snatch Muslim properties like mosques and graveyards if the bill becomes a law, dismissing it as propaganda and noting that the Bill to regulate Waqf has been in existence since the British era.

He said a similar campaign was started against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and asked if a single Muslim has lost citizenship since the law came into existence.

He urged the Opposition to study the Bill in detail and then engage in discussions with the government. The Bill is in the interest of a majority of Muslims and only a few leaders who have exploited Waqf properties for personal gains are against it, he said.

Asserting that no other bill has passed through such an extensive consultation process, he accused its critics of resorting to falsehoods and stressed that minorities are safest in India and enjoy the "best rights of freedom".

Future tense for agri as Trump tariff to kick in

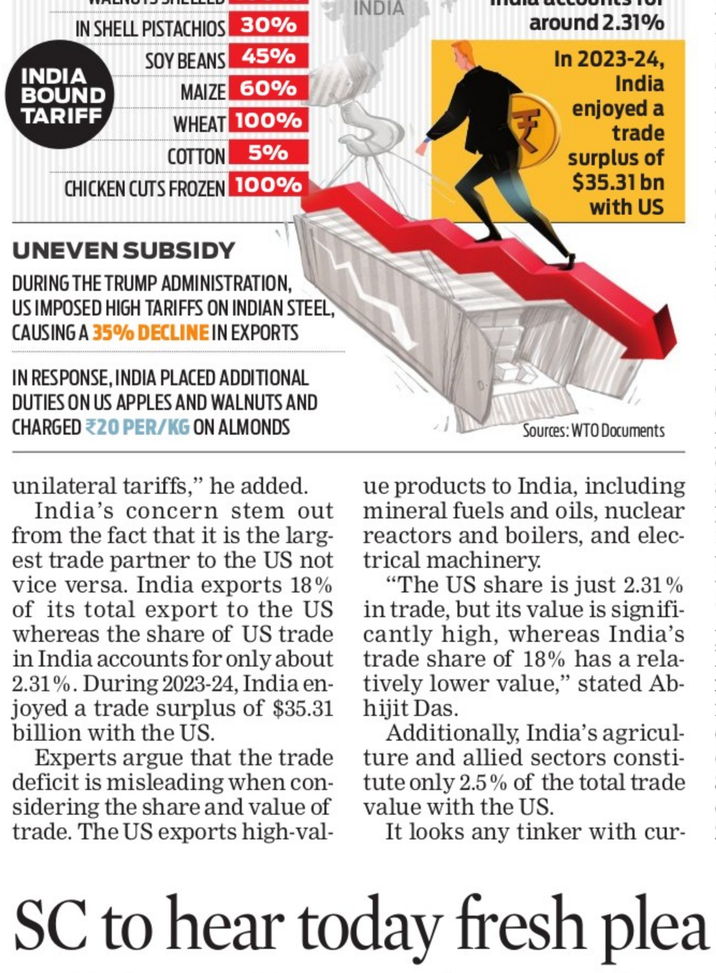
JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

AS April 2 approaches, India faces uncertainty over US President Donald Trump's plan to impose reciprocal tariffs on India and 25 other countries. These tariffs could impact sectors like agriculture, which employs about 700 million people and is crucial for food security. Currently, there is a lack of clarity regarding how the US will implement these reciprocal tariffs especially on agriculture and allied sectors.

"We still do not have clarity on whether the reciprocal tariffs will be applied sector-wise, as a single reciprocal tariff for each country, or if there will be separate tariffs for industrial and agricultural products," stated a senior official from the Ministry of Commerce.

Designed to protect small farmers and compliant with WTO rules, India's tariffs include significant rates on key agricultural products like 45% on soybean and 100% on wheat.

"India's tariffs adhere to WTO regulations," explained Abhijit Das, former Head and Professor at the Centre for WTO Studies at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade. "The US is attempting to achieve what it couldn't through WTO negotiations by threatening unilateral tariffs," he added.


AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND INDIA-BOUND TARIFFS IN COMPLIANCE WITH WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION NORMS
INDIA BOUND TARIFF
SKIMMED MILK POWDER 60%
APPLES 50%
WALNUTS SHELLED 100%
IN SHELL PISTACHIOS 30%
SOY BEANS 45%
MAIZE 60%
WHEAT 100%
COTTON 5%
CHICKEN CUTS FROZEN 100%
INDIA
India exports 18% of its total export to US
Share of US trade in India accounts for around 2.31%
In 2023-24, India enjoyed a trade surplus of $35.31 bn with US
UNEVEN SUBSIDY
DURING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION, US IMPOSED HIGH TARIFFS ON INDIAN STEEL, CAUSING A 35% DECLINE IN EXPORTS
IN RESPONSE, INDIA PLACED ADDITIONAL DUTIES ON US APPLES AND WALNUTS AND CHARGED ₹20 PER/KG ON ALMONDS
Sources: WTO Documents

India's concern stem out from the fact that it is the largest trade partner to the US not vice versa. India exports 18% of its total export to the US whereas the share of US trade in India accounts for only about 2.31%. During 2023-24, India enjoyed a trade surplus of $35.31 billion with the US.

Experts argue that the trade deficit is misleading when considering the share and value of trade. The US exports high-value products to India, including mineral fuels and oils, nuclear reactors and boilers, and electrical machinery.

"The US share is just 2.31% in trade, but its value is significantly high, whereas India's trade share of 18% has a relatively lower value," stated Abhijit Das.

Additionally, India's agriculture and allied sectors constitute only 2.5% of the total trade value with the US.

It looks any tinker with current trade tariff would benefit the 3.9 million American farming community but at the cost of India's 50% population (around 700 million) which depends on agriculture. "It seems that the US is seeking special treatment, which goes against WTO agreements," said Ramesh Chand, a well-known agricultural economist and member of the government's think tank, NITI Aayog. "Any changes in tariffs would apply to other countries as well. For any special treatment, India and the US must establish a bilateral trade agreement to address the trade tariff issue," he added.

A USDA report titled 'Opportunities for US Agricultural Products in India' suggests that climate change may restrict India's ability to feed its growing population, increasing reliance on imports. The US views this as an opportunity to expand exports to India, with projections indicating that India's agricultural market could triple over the next two decades.

"Indian farmers cannot compete with unevenly balanced level of subsidy given to US farmers," said Devinder Sharma, an agricultural trade expert. Declining cotton production in India, from 37 million bales in 2017-18 to an estimated 31.6 million in 2023-24, raises concerns.

Higher number of heatwave days in April: IMD

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast 6 to 11 heatwave days in April, higher than the normal range of 4 to 7 days. The prediction mainly affects Eastern and Central India.

The IMD also anticipates above-normal maximum and minimum temperatures across most parts of the country, with some exceptions in Southern and Western India.

Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General of Meteorology at IMD, stated, "There will be 2 to 4 additional heatwave days in April, particularly over many East and Central India areas, including adjacent regions of Peninsular India."

Heatwaves carry significant risks, particularly for vulnerable populations such as the elderly, children, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

These groups are more prone to heat-related illnesses like heat exhaustion and heatstroke. The IMD has issued an advisory recommending precautions during this period.

SIZZLING SUMMER AHEAD
Elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions are in higher risk of heat-related illnesses
APRIL MAY SEE 11 HEAT-WAVE DAYS, COMPARED TO THE NORMAL 7 DAYS
During April-June, most parts of the country will experience above-normal maximum and minimum temperatures and heat-wave days
Extreme weather condition in Northeast and Southern regions during second and third week of April
IMD said the neutral trend of El Nino during the monsoon increases the chance of a normal monsoon

In its seasonal outlook for the hot weather season, covering April to June, and its monthly outlook for April 2025, the IMD forecasts that above-normal maximum and minimum temperatures, as well as an increased number of heatwave days, are likely over most parts of North and East Peninsular India, Central India, East India, and the plains of Northwest India. Some parts of the Northwest region, such as Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana, may experience normal nighttime temperatures in April.

"The maximum temperatures would steadily rise in the range of 3-5 degrees Celsius from the first week of April, which may cause discomfort," said the scientist.

The IMD forecast extreme weather events in the Northeast and Southern regions during April's second and third weeks.

IMD advised people to take precautionary steps in Northeast India and some southern regions, such as Kerala and South Karnataka.

Meanwhile, IMD said it would make a full monsoon forecast in mid-April. However, it indicated that El Nino—the warming of the tropical Pacific Ocean synonymous with poor monsoons in India—will be in a neutral phase until the end of the monsoon season. This means the monsoon would possibly be normal.

Further, its rainfall forecast during April said the country predicts normal to above-normal rainfall over many parts of northwest India, peninsular India, northeast India, and some parts of west-central India. Below-normal rainfall is likely over the remaining parts of the country, the IMD added.

SC to hear today fresh plea challenging validity of 1991 Places of Worship Act

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Tuesday a fresh plea challenging the validity of a provision of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, which mandates maintaining the religious character of a place as it existed on August 15, 1947.

According to the cause list uploaded on the SC's website, the plea, filed by law student Nitin Upadhyay, is slated to come up for hearing before a bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar. The plea has challenged section 4(2) of the Act that barred proceedings to change the religious character of a place, besides prohibiting filing of fresh cases for the same.

"The Centre has transgressed its legislative power in barring the judicial remedy, which is a basic feature of the Constitution. It is well established that the right to judicial remedy by filing suit in a competent court cannot be barred and the power of courts cannot be abridged," the plea said.

In February, the apex court had expressed displeasure over filing of several pleas on the 1991 Act and said a three-judge bench would in April hear the pending post-notice petitions related to the law. "Too many petitions filed. There is a limit to interventions being filed," said the CJI-led bench.

The SC, however, had granted liberty to some petitioners to file applications for intervention in the pending ones by citing new legal grounds. The Congress has also moved the SC to oppose pleas challenging the provisions of the 1991 Act and seeking a direction to be an intervener in the pleas.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

SC to hear Allahbadia's plea on FIRs today
The Supreme Court is slated to hear on Tuesday a plea filed by podcaster Ranveer Allahbadia in connection with multiple FIRs filed against him over his comment on parents at YouTube show "India's Got Latent".

Panel to seek views on mental health
The Supreme Court-appointed National Task Force has started functioning and will seek public opinion preparing its reports on tackling mental health issues in educational institutions across the country.

SPECIAL POWERS

Assam has extended application of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in three districts, Tinsukia, Charaideo and Sivasagar, for six more months. The govt, however, withdrew the controversial law from Dibrugarh district in light of "improved" law & order there.

6 PERSONS DETAINED FOR QUESTIONING IN J&K'S KATHUA AMID INTENSIVE SEARCH OPS

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	38	24	Mumbai	33	28
Bhopal	34	23	Panaji	34	27
Jaipur	34	22	Patna	36	23
Amritsar	31	14	Lucknow	36	20
Chennai	31	27	Port Blair	31	27
Kolkata	36	27	Imphal	28	18
Srinagar	19	04	Chandigarh	33	16

J'khand jungles dotted with IEDs

Security forces face challenge during anti-Maoist operations in Chaibasa belt

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

COUNTLESS IEDs (improvised explosive devices), planted by Maoists to check the advance of security forces into the hinterlands of Jharkhand to uncover Maoist hideouts, has been posing significant challenges to ongoing anti-Maoist operations in the Saranda jungles of Chaibasa.

Since November 2022, as many as six security personnel have lost their lives while 20 others have been critically injured. Besides, around 22 civilians have been claimed and dozen others have been wounded in IED blasts triggered by Maoists in Chaibasa forests.

In March this year alone, three IED blasts took place in Saranda jungles; three jawans were injured on March 5, one was injured on March 16, while a CRPF sub-inspector Sunil Mandal was martyred and a CRPF head constable was injured in an IED explosion on March 22.

Notably, Maoists are now restricted only to Saranda jungles in Jharkhand as they have been wiped out from other remote pockets of the state. According to an estimate, around 85 - 90 Maoists are purportedly hiding in Saranda jungles, where they have apparently planted thousands of IEDs, which has become a challenge for security forces.

According to police sources, on an average, more than 300 IEDs have been recovered every year since November 2022; with a maximum weight of 50 kg. In 2023, 55 IEDs, planted in a series, were recovered.

In August 2023, a Maoist hideout was busted by security forces from where around 500 kg of explosives, along with 60-65 IEDs, were recovered.

"IEDs have become a challenge for the security forces as its components are easily available in the market and could be prepared within hours by an expert. Therefore, it has definitely been posing a significant risk to security operations against the Maoist cadre hiding in deep forests," said SP Ashutosh Shekhar.

Forces have to proceed cautiously to avoid any untoward situation, he added. According to the officer, operations need to be halted or postponed in cases of explosion or casualty and has to be re-planned with changed routes or strategies. Despite IEDs dotting the entire forest stretch, forces are advancing slowly into the region with full determination and have established several temporary security camps in the core areas, he said.

Notably, Maoists have reportedly distributed pamphlets in villages adjacent to forests, warning villagers not to enter forest limits as they may step on an IED.

SHOCK & AWE

- Since November 2022, 6 security personnel killed, over 20 critically wounded in IED blasts
- Around 22 civilians lost their lives, dozen others injured, in Maoist offensive in Chaibasa
- An average 300 IEDs are recovered every year; with a maximum weight of 50 kg.
- **August 2023:** Forces recovered 500 kg explosives and 60-65 IEDs

3 blasts shook Saranda in Mar '25

- **March 5:** 3 jawans injured
- **March 16:** 1 injured in IED explosion
- **March 22:** CRPF sub-inspector martyred, head constable injured

Woman Maoist with ₹45L bounty in 2 states killed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Raipur

A woman Maoist carrying a collective reward of ₹45 lakh in two states was killed in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region on Monday, police officials said. Gummadiveli Renuka, the deceased cadre, was a law graduate and was active in the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoist) since 1996 and carried a reward of ₹25 lakh in Chhattisgarh and ₹20 lakh in neighbouring Telangana.

The gunfight broke out at around 9 am in a forest along the border of Dantewada and Bijapur districts in Bastar region when District Reserve Guard personnel were out on an anti-Naxalite operation, Dantewada SP Gaurav Rai said.

The exchange of fire lasted for about two hours following which police found the body of Gummadiveli Renuka, resident Kadvaendi village in Warangal in Telangana, also known by aliases Bhanu, Chaite, Saraswati and Damyanti, he said.

Protests in Azamgarh over mystery death of Dalit in police station

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE death of a Dalit youth at Tarwan police station in UP's Azamgarh district sparked protests on Monday with a mob throwing stones at police personnel and vandalising their vehicles that left a cop injured.

Police used mild force on the protesters to bring the situation under control. In the melee, inspector Akhilesh Kumar Maurya fractured his leg and was sent to hospital in a critical condition, police said.

Four police personnel, including SHO Kamlesh Patel, a sub-inspector and two constables, were suspended in connection with the case.

According to sources, Tarwan police picked up one Sunny Kumar, 21, from his house in Umri Patti village on charges of harassing a girl on Saturday. An FIR was registered against him under Bharat Nyay Samhita (BNS) section 74 (outraging modesty of a woman) on the basis of a complaint lodged by the girl's father.

According to police, Sunny had to be presented before a magistrate on Monday morning but his body was found hanging in the bathroom of the police station the same morning. A police officer said a guard found the body after Sunny did not come out.

When the word went out, Sunny's family, accompanied by a mob, stormed the police station but they could not get the body as it had been sent for autopsy. A huge commotion followed with the family alleging murder, though police claimed it was suicide.

Forces from four adjoining police stations have been deployed to monitor the situation. Police sources claimed Sunny and the girl were in a relationship and wanted to get married, but her family refused.

Family alleges murder

The family of the Dalit youth alleged murder although the police insisted it was suicide. Sunny had to be presented before a magistrate on Monday but his body was found hanging in the bathroom of the police station the same morning. A police officer said a guard found the body after Sunny did not come out.

AHMEDABAD DIARY

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
Our correspondent in Gujarat
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Ex-Dy CM's remark on minorities draws ire

Former Dy CM Nitin Patel faced backlash from the Sanatan Sant Samiti over a controversial remark about the Muslim community. While attending a Sindhi gathering in Kadi, Patel reportedly said, "The ghost of Muslims can haunt anytime, anywhere." Urging people not to forget atrocities in Pakistan, the former minister claimed Hindu temples were destroyed, converted into mosques there. Condemning the comments, the Samiti chief Jyotirnath Maharaj accused Patel of promoting communal division. He urged leaders to prioritise harmony over conflict, warning that such rhetoric could destabilise society.

Routine call or cabinet expansion diktat?

After Pondicherry Governor K Kailasanathan met Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel last week, speculation about a potential cabinet expansion has intensified. During a March 28 event, the CM received an urgent call and went backstage for five minutes, sparking political discussions. With 27 cabinet positions available in total, ten new ministers may be added to the roster. However, the call's origin – whether New Delhi, RSS HQ, PMO, or Home Minister Shah – remains unclear. Amid intrigue, sources claimed the CM went offstage to attend a routine call as the microphone was acting up.

Oppn slams state govt over CAG report

On the last day of the Assembly session, Opposition MLAs criticized the Gujarat government on various issues, including the CAG report, illegal mining, Vibrant Gujarat Summit expenses, land revenue amendments, and loan assistance irregularities. LoP Amit Chavda accused the government of presenting the report on the final day to avoid discussion. Congress questioned the ₹114.53 crore expenditure on the Vibrant Summit. MLA Vimal Chudasama alleged government inaction on illegal mining. Opposition MLAs also sought implementation of the 'Ladli Behna Yojana', but the Speaker cited the existing 'Vahli Dikri' scheme.

Modi, Rahul to firm up high-stakes Bihar battle plank with April rallies

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi is likely to visit Bihar on April 24 in the run-up to the state assembly polls due in October-November. He will address panchayat representatives on the occasion of the National Panchayati Raj Day in Madhubani district.

Addtionally, the PM will lay foundation stone and inaugurate several development projects on the occasion. On Monday, Union minister of state for Panchayati Raj Lalan Singh, deputy chief minister Samrat Choudhary and state industries minister Nitish Mishra reviewed the preparedness for the PM's visit.

It will be Modi's second visit to the state since January this year. Senior BJP leaders said on Monday that PM Modi will make frequent visits to the poll-bound state to boost morale of party workers ahead of the assembly elections. He will also announce several development projects for Bihar.

On February 24, Modi had visited Bhagalpur to release the 19th instalment of the PM Kishan Samman Nidhi scheme; besides addressing a rally at the airport ground, the PM also interacted with farmers from neighbouring districts.

BJP sources said several Union ministers are set to visit the state ahead of the assembly polls. On March 29 and 30, Union home minister visited Bihar and addressed a rally at Gopalganj, the native district of RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav where he launched a scathing attack on the RJD's 'first family'.

Shah also held a meeting with top NDA leaders at Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's residence where, among other issues, seat sharing was also discussed. The NDA partners reportedly submitted a list of seats from which each party wanted to contest from.

All roads lead to Bihar

On the other hand, the opposition INDIA bloc is also gearing up for the upcoming Bihar elections. Congress MP Rahul Gandhi is set to visit the stae on April 7 to take part in the 'Samvidhan Suraksha Sammelan' in Patna. Before his visit, state Congress has launched a campaign to garner support.

Left, Right trying to trigger riots in Bengal: Mamata

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

PARTICIPATING in the annual Eid-ul-Fitr prayers at Kolkata's Red Road, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday claimed that the BJP and the Left have joined hands and are trying to incite riots.

"Ram (referring to the BJP) and Baam (Left) have come together. They purchased tickets to go to London during my visit to Oxford. I told them that I am Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian. They try to divide. They try to create a riot. Don't react. They have plans. Don't fall into their trap," Banerjee said.

"Provocations are being made to fuel riots, but please don't fall into these traps. The West Bengal government stands with the minorities. No one can provoke tensions in the state," she said, asserting that the BJP's "ganda dharma" was contrary to the true principles of Hinduism.

Condemning Banerjee's comments, BJP's IT cell chief Amit Malviya accused her of disrespecting Hinduism. "Despite numerous anti-Hindu riots under her watch, she has the audacity to mock Hindus and deride their faith. Once again, she has given Muslims a carte blanche to target Hindus," Malviya said on social media.

Controversy over Aurangzeb tomb unnecessary: RSS leader

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

AMID the controversy over right-wing organisations demanding the removal of Aurangzeb's tomb, RSS leader Suresh 'Bhaiyyaji' Joshi clarified that the topic had been raised unnecessarily. "Aurangzeb died here (in Maharashtra), so his tomb has been built here. Those who have faith will go (there)."

Joshi said their role model is Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj'. "Shivaji Maharaj even built the tomb of Afzal Khan. It symbolises India's generosity and inclusiveness. The tomb will remain; whoever wants to go will go," the former RSS general secretary said.

Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal, affiliated organisations of RSS, had staged a protest in Nagpur demanding the removal of Aurangzeb's tomb at Khuldabad in Sambhaji Nagar.

The protest snowballed into a controversy over the alleged insult of the Prophet by burning the sacred chadar during the protest. It resulted in violence in Nagpur.

Earlier, RSS Prachar Pramukh Sunil Ambekar said that the tomb of the 17th-century Mughal emperor, Aurangzeb, was not relevant today. Reacting to the Nagpur violence, he said, "We should not encourage any form of action. The police will investigate the case."

Joshi's statement was also a response to MNS chief Raj Thackeray's comments. At the Gudi Padwa rally in Shivaji Park, Thackeray appealed to people not to succumb to the politics of caste and religion-based hatred and not to look at history from a communal perspective.

He said the tombs of people like Aurangzeb and Afzal Khan, who attacked the "swarajya" of Chhatrapati Shivaji, should be protected to showcase them as a symbol of Maratha bravery. He also asked people not to rely on WhatsApp forwards for historical information.

"Shivaji Maharaj was fighting feudalism. Don't look at the caste and religion of the commander or historical figures, as people from all communities worked for different kingdoms. I urge youngsters to stop reading history on WhatsApp. This is a plan to divert you from real problems of society," the RSS leader said.

RSS keeps distance from tomb controversy

Rumours about a 'chadar' with holy inscriptions burnt during protests led by the VHP seeking removal of Aurangzeb's tomb triggered violence in Nagpur earlier this month. Commenting on the incident, RSS spokesperson Sunil Ambekar described the 17th-century emperor as "irrelevant". Asked if the tomb should be relocated, Ambekar had replied, "It's not relevant".

Shivaji Maharaj was fighting feudalism. Don't look at the caste and religion of historical figures, as people from all communities worked for different kingdoms. I urge youngsters to stop reading history on WhatsApp. This is a plan to divert you from the real problems

Suresh Joshi, Senior RSS leader

FESTIVAL TIME

100-km trek to retrace Dalai Lama great escape to India from Tibet

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

A 300-strong group of monks, village chiefs, border-guarding forces personnel, tourists and Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members embarked on a 100-km trek route along the Freedom Trail in Arunachal Pradesh on Monday, retracing the route taken by the 14th Dalai Lama during his great escape from Tibet.

The six-day trek commenced at Kenzamani and will culminate at Pungteng in Tawang on April 5, commemorating the day when the Tibetan spiritual leader arrived in this India-China border town in 1959. Organised by the district administration, the inaugural ceremony began with prayers for the long life of the Dalai Lama.

Addressing the participants, Lungla MLA Tsering Lhamu said, "As we embark on this journey along the Freedom Trail, we draw strength from the wisdom of His Holiness and hope for a peaceful future."

He said Arunachal's relationship with Tibet is centuries-old.

"We remain inspired by the teachings of His Holiness and his unwavering commitment to compassion, non-violence and promotion of human values."

Lhamu and Department of Karmik and Adhyatmik Affairs chairman Jambey Wangdi flagged off the trek. Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) jawans received the portrait of the Dalai Lama and a branch of the holy tree at Chudangmo, offering a guard of honour.

The participants reached Chhu-Dang-Mo later in the day, covering a distance of 3 km. Accommodations for the party was arranged by the ITBP and the Indian Army.

On day two, they will undertake a 10 km trek to Gorzam Chorten, a five-hour walk deep into the heart of history. The next day will entail a gruelling ten-hour walk to Shakti, located 22 km away. The participants will be joined by village chiefs and PRI members from Pangchen Dhingro.

They will walk a distance of 23 km to reach Old Lumla, culminating in a visit to Thar Dhoe Norbu Ling Gonpa on day four. It will be followed by a 14 km stretch to Thongleng on day five before the final push.

On the last day, the participants will take part in a 28 km march to Tawang Monastery, an 11-hour journey.

Akhilesh cries foul as Eid remains peaceful in UP

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

WHILE Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav accused the state adminstration of deliberately stopping his convoy, delaying his visit to the Lucknow Eidgah to greet Namazis, Eid-ul-Fitr was celebrated peacefully amid tight security cover in Uttar Pradesh on Monday, with the Muslim community offering Namaz at 30,000 mosques and 40,000 Eidgahs across the state.

Amid orders imposed by the government prohibiting Namaz on roads and public places and strict vigil in districts such as Sambhal, Aligarh, Lucknow, and Meerut, Namazis thronged the Jama masjid in Varanasi, offering Namaz on mosque stairs as roads were off bound.

Meanwhile, the SP chief claimed he was stopped while on his way to the Lucknow Eidgah. "They kept my fleet held up for half an hour. When I asked the reason, the officer had no reply. Is this a dictatorship, or some undeclared Emergency?" Akhilesh alleged. DyCM Brajesh Pathak also reached Lucknow Eidgah and greeted those who had congragated there.

UP DGP Prashant Kumar said Eid-ul-Fitr Namaz was offered peacefully in all districts, adhering to the guidelines issued by the administration. "People did not offer Namaz in public places following advice from clerics and as per norms laid out by the administration," he said.

Children greet security personnel in Sambhal | PTI

Strict vigil in Sambhal

In western UP's Sambhal district, rocked by recent incidents of communal violence, around dozen companies of security forces were deployed. Over 1,300 CCTV cameras were installed around mosques and the disputed Shahi Jama Masjid.

100 fall ill after eating buckwheat on Navratri

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

NEARLY 110 people fell ill in Dehradun due to food poisoning after eating buckwheat flour (kuttu ka aata) during Navratri fasting on Monday. Sixty-six people have been admitted to Coronation Hospital and 44 to Doon Medical College and Hospital. Visiting the Doon hospital, health minister Dhan Singh Rawat said, "We are ensuring that all necessary measures are taken for the treatment of the affected."

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami also rushed to the hospital to enquire about the patients. "The flour was supplied from Saharanpur. The dealer's shop has been sealed, and notices have been issued to all other locations where the flour was distributed," Dhami told reporters. "We have informed the Saharanpur administration about the matter. Whoever is responsible for this will not be spared. An investigation is underway," he added.

Minister Rawat directed local authorities to take strict action against those who supplied the flour. Preliminary findings revealed that spurious flour had been distributed to various stores and warehouses in Dehradun.

Police have confiscated the affected buckwheat flour at shops and warehouses; three shops in Saharanpur, from where the supply originated, have been sealed, officials said.

Spurious flour from Saharanpur

Made from buckwheat seeds, the flour is popular in India, particularly during fasting periods of Navratris.The buckwheat flour was supplied from Saharanpur. The dealer's shop has been sealed, and notices have been issued to all other locations where the flour was distributed. Police confiscated the affected buckwheat flour at shops and warehouses.

5 people
died and four more were injured at a coal mine explosion in Spain on Monday

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	21	11	SNY	Los Angeles	20	9	LC
Colombo	32	25	LC	Melbourne	23	11	SNY
Dhaka	35	25	SNY	Moscow	10	5	LR
Dubai	33	23	SNY	New York	14	2	SNY
Houston	27	23	LC	Singapore	34	25	LR
Istanbul	17	10	LR	Toronto	5	-1	LC
London	15	7	SNY	Washington	16	6	SNY

Efforts to end Ukraine war a drawn-out process: Russia

Moscow rejected a US proposal for an immediate 30-day halt in the fighting, and earned Trump's ire by questioning Zelenskyy's credibility

MOSCOW

RUSSIA views efforts to end its three-year war with Ukraine as "a drawn-out process," a Kremlin spokesman said Monday, after US President Donald Trump expressed frustration with the two countries' leaders as he tries to bring about a truce.

"We are working to implement some ideas in connection with the Ukrainian settlement. This work is ongoing," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said to reporters. "There is nothing concrete yet that we could announce. This is a drawn-out process because of the difficulty of its substance," he said when asked about Trump's anger at Russian President Vladimir Putin's comments dismissing Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's legitimacy to negotiate a deal.

Russia has effectively rejected a US proposal for a full and immediate 30-day halt in the fighting. The feasibility of a partial ceasefire on the Black Sea, used by both countries to transport shipments of grain and other cargo, was cast into doubt after Kremlin negotiators imposed far-reaching conditions.

Trump promised during last year's US election campaign that he would bring Europe's biggest conflict since World War II to a swift conclusion.

Peskov didn't directly address Trump's criticism of Putin on Sunday when he said he was "angry, pissed off" that Putin had questioned Zelenskyy's credibility as leader.

But he said that Putin "remains absolutely open to contacts" with the US president and was ready to speak to him.

Both countries are preparing for a spring-summer campaign on the battlefield, analysts and Ukrainian and Western officials say.

Zelenskyy said late Sunday that there has been no letup in Russia's attacks as it drives on with its invasion of its neighbour that began in February 2022. He said the attacks demonstrated Russia's unwillingness to forge a settlement.

"The geography and brutality of Russian strikes, not just occasionally, but literally every day and night, show that Putin couldn't care less about diplomacy," Zelenskyy said in his daily address. "And almost every day, in response to this proposal, there are Russian drones, bombs, artillery shelling, and ballistic strikes," he said.

He urged further international pressure on Moscow to compel Russia to negotiate, including new sanctions.

The European Union's foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas picked up on that theme at a meeting of some of the bloc's top diplomats in Madrid on Monday.

"Russia is playing games and not really wanting peace," Kallas told reporters ahead of the meeting, which was due to discuss the war. "So our question is, how can we put more pressure on Russia."

Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, came under another Russian drone attack overnight, injuring three people, the Ukrainian Interior Ministry said Monday. *AP*

Trump finds fault with both Putin and Zelenskyy

President Donald Trump lashed out at both Vladimir Putin and Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Sunday, expressing his frustration as he struggles to forge a truce to end the war. Trump acknowledged that "there's tremendous hatred" between the two men, a fresh indication that negotiations may not produce the swift conclusion that he promised during the campaign. He said he was "angry, pissed off" that Putin questioned Zelenskyy's credibility. The Russian leader recently said that Zelenskyy lacks the legitimacy to sign a peace deal and suggested Ukraine needed external governance

A Russian Army 2S5 howitzer Giatsint-S fires missiles towards Ukrainian positions in Ukraine on Monday | AP

China's foreign minister heads to Moscow for 'strategic talks'

BEIJING

CHINESE Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Monday travelled to Moscow for talks with his counterpart, Sergei Lavrov, in a visit overshadowed by Western moves over Ukraine.

Wang is scheduled to meet with Lavrov on Tuesday, days after Ukraine and Russia agreed in principle to a limited ceasefire after US President Donald Trump spoke with the two countries' leaders. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun, in comments consistent with China's position, emphasised Beijing's assertions of neutrality in the Ukraine conflict.

'We always believe that dialogue and negotiation are the only viable way out of the crisis. China's cooperation with Russia does not target a third party and should not be affected by any third party,' Guo told reporters.

China did not mention Ukraine in its announcement of Wang's trip, saying only that the two countries 'continue to deepen back-to-back strategic coordination and expand cooperation across various fields". 'The Chinese side is ready to take this visit as an opportunity to work with the Russian side ... on international and regional issues of common concern,' a foreign ministry spokesperson was quoted as saying. China has provided strong diplomatic support for Russia in the over three years since it launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, along with an economic lifeline through trade in energy and consumer goods.

However, it has not knowingly provided Russia with weapons or military expertise. *AP*

Must review quake safety in country, say Thai authorities

BANGKOK

THAI authorities said Monday they are investigating why a single office tower under construction in Bangkok collapsed during an earthquake Friday that otherwise caused limited damage.

Bangkok Governor Chadchart Sittipunt visited the site as heavy equipment pulled away rubble from the 30-story building in hopes of finding survivors among the 78 people still missing.

He said it is most urgent to first concentrate on finding whoever might be saved. "Even one life saved is worth the effort," he said.

But in the longer run it's important to ensure building safety in the city, which has millions of people living and working in thousands of high-rise buildings. "In the medium- and long-term, I think we need to find the root cause so at least we can learn some lessons and improve building regulations," he said.

The magnitude 7.7 quake centred over 1,200 kilometres away killed more than 1,700 people in Myanmar and at least 18 in Thailand, most at the Bangkok construction site near the popular Chatuchak Market.

Staff of a police hospital evacuate patients after getting reports of aftershocks of the Myanmar earthquakes in Bangkok | AP

Shares in the property developer handling the project, Italian Thai Development, sank 27% on Monday as questions were raised about the high-rise's design, enforcement of construction safety codes, and the state-run Chinese contractor building the structure, the State Audit Office building.

Interior Minister Anutin Charnvirakul, whose family owns one of Thailand's largest construction conglomerates, told reporters he ordered an investigation committee to be set up and to report the results back to him within seven days. He pointed to three possible factors: the designer, the inspectors or the builders.

Although it does not sit near a geologic fault, Bangkok is built on relatively unstable alluvial soil, on the banks of the Chao Phraya River. The city has long been sinking under the weight of its tall buildings, leading authorities to restrict the use of groundwater to help reduce subsidence. *AP*

FAMILIES AWAIT NEWS OF MISSING WORKERS

In Bangkok, 78 people remain missing in the aftermath of the under-construction building that collapsed due to the Myanmar earthquake. Thai authorities are racing against time to find anyone left alive under the ruins as the crucial 72-hour mark passes. While authorities have said they detected possible sounds of life, so far only one person was pulled alive. Tavida Kamolvej, Bangkok's deputy governor, told reporters at the site that crews are speeding up the search. "Every second counts," she said. Videos of the collapse show the building shaking a little before tumbling to the ground, sending a huge plume of dust into the sky as people scream and run away

ASIA MATTERS

'DATA CENTRES TO BE BUILT IN KAZAKHSTAN'

Singaporean firm GK Hyperscale Ltd will participate in the construction of two major data processing centres in Kazakhstan's Akmola and Karaganda regions, said Minister of Digital Development Zhaslan Madiev. Speaking at the AlmatyFair.ai exhibition, Madiev spoke of the nation's plans to expand the use of AI across industrial and social sectors.

Hamas calls on 'anyone who can bear arms' to fight Trump's plans for Gazans

CAIRO

A senior Hamas official on Monday called on supporters worldwide to pick up weapons and fight US President Donald Trump's plan to relocate more than two million Gazans to neighbouring countries such as Egypt and Jordan.

"In the face of this sinister plan—one that combines massacres with starvation—anyone who can bear arms, anywhere in the world, must take action," Sami Abu Zuhri said. "Do not withhold an explosive, a bullet, a knife, or a stone. Let everyone break their silence."

Abu Zuhri's call comes a day after Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu offered to let Hamas leaders leave Gaza but demanded that the Palestinian militant group disarm in the final stages of the war in Gaza. Hamas has expressed a willingness to relinquish Gaza's administration, but has warned its weapons are a "red line". Netanyahu said Israel was working towards a plan proposed by Trump to displace Gazans to other countries. Netanyahu said that after the war, Israel would ensure overall security in Gaza and "enable the implementation of the Trump plan"—which had initially called for the mass displacement of all 2.4 million people living in the Palestinian territory—calling it a "voluntary migration plan".

Days after taking office in January, Trump floated a proposal to move Gaza's population out of the war-battered territory, suggesting that Egypt or Jordan could take them in.

Both countries, along with other Arab allies, governments around the world and the Palestinians themselves, have flatly rejected the notion. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Sweden pledges $1.6 bn in new military aid to Ukraine

Stockholm: Sweden will donate 16 billion kronor ($1.6 billion) in fresh military aid to Ukraine, the government said on Monday—the largest such package from the nation since Russia's 2022 invasion. Swedish Defence Minister Pal Jonson told reporters that Sweden wanted "to send the message now that we are both intensifying our support and increasing its strength and scope." Nine billion kronor would go towards the acquisition of newly produced materials, "mainly from the Swedish, but also the European defence industrial base."

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

11th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400013 Contact No. (022) 61827414, (022) 61827375.

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)
(As per Rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the TATA Capital Housing Finance Limited., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated as below calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower, having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, in particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules.

The borrower, in particular, and the public in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **TATA Capital Housing Finance Limited**, for an amount referred to below along with interest thereon and penal interest, charges, costs etc. from date of demand notice.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Loan Account No.	Name of Obligor(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s)	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
TCHHL 0491000100106441 & TCHIN 0491000100108615 & TCHIN 0491000100218212	Mr. Syed Ibrahim S (Borrower) Mrs. Swetha GN (Co Borrower)	As on 13th Jan 2025 Rs.62,67,403/-	28th March, 2025

Schedule of the Property: SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY(Description of said Larger Property /Schedule I Property)[The property comprising of Portion A Land and Portion B Land] All those piece and parcel of commercially converted land bearing Survey Nos.2/4, Survey No.3/2 Survey No.4/2 (earlier bearing Survey No.3/2, Survey No.4/1 and southern portion of Survey No.4/2) and commercially converted land bearing Survey No.2/3 and Survey 3/3 (earlier bearing Survey No.2/4 and 3/1) all situate at Sheshagiriraopalya Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, (Earlier Nelamangala taluka) Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka, measuring in all about 25 Acres 21 Guntas having hundi Khata no 150200202800403024 (as per the gram panchayath record Khata No. 2363/449) and bounded as follows:- On or towards East: Road, On or towards West: Survey No.2/2 and Survey No.4/3 now part of Kanva Gardens Layout, On or towards North: Survey No.3/1 and Survey No.4/1 now part of Kanva Gardens Layout, On or towards South: Pillahalli Village Boundary SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY, (Description of the said Unit)Residential Unit No. Elite 29022 admeasuring 71.72 sq. mtrs. equivalent to 772 sq. ft. carpet area and balcony/verandah 6.96 sq.mtrs (75 sq.ft) on the 2nd floor in building/ Tower No. 29, bearing E-Khata no. 150200202801522487, Phase 4 in the (New Haven) Project along with 0.371% undivided right and interest in the common areas along with One covered car parking allocated in the basement.

Loan Account No.	Name of Obligor(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s)	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
TCHHL 0883000100169220 & TCHIN 0883000100171965	Mr. Siddharth Shivakumar Nair (Borrower) and Mrs. Meenu M Pillai as (Co Borrower)	As on 08th Nov 2024 Rs. 36,14,709/-	31st March, 2025

Schedule of the Property: SCHEDULE B An Apartment bearing No.A1608 on the sixteenth floor in Block A, in the residential apartment complex "TVS Emerald Jardin" constructed on the Project Land and the apartment having a carpet area of 35.89 square meters (equivalent to 386 square feet), Exclusive area of 3.27 meters (equivalent to 35 square feet). Common area of 18.01 square meters (equivalent to 194 square feet) which constitute the Total Area admeasuring 57.17 square meters (equivalent to 615 square feet) together with proportionate UDS in project land admeasuring an extent of 19.88 Square meter (equivalent to 213.99 square feet) together with open Car Park bearing Number S037. Sq Mtr, out of constructed area measuring 44.965052 sq. meters, Towards East : RS No. 23-2-13, Towards West : Road, Towards North : Road, Towards South : RS No. 23-2-16.

Date: 28th & 31st March 2025
Place: Bangalore

For Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public are hereby informed /notified that my client **Smt. Bhanumathi .V, W/o Late Govindareddy** resident of Addeviswanthapura is the absolute owner of the schedule mentioned property and she has been in possession and enjoyment of the same. On 17.03.2025, while travelling to Yelahanka, at Rajanakunte village, my client, **Smt. Bhanumathi V,** lost the original sale deed for the schedule property and 4 numbers of singed blank stamp papers along with some other documents. In spite of police complaint the same are not traced.

As the above said documents are lost, my client hereby requesting to the General Public that any person finding the above said documents you are hereby kindly requested to contact the undersigned and handover the said documents, immediately and you will be rewarded suitably. Further, the General Public is Warned/Notified that "not to deal with the schedule property" under the said lost documents with any third party, other than my client. If any body deals with the schedule property with any third party, the same will not be binding on my client and my client is not responsible for the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the land in **Sy. No. 51/1,** measuring **22 Guntas** and **Sy. No.52/1,** measuring **10 Guntas,** totally measuring **32 Guntas,** situated at **Maragondanahalli village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District** and bounded by:

East by : the land of Bhanumathi V in sy. No. 51/3 and other land, West by : Land of O. Patalappa, North by: Land in Sy. No. 45, South by : Land of Bhanumathi V.

T. ANJAIAH & Associates
Advocates & Property Laws Consultants
No. 2361, Ground Floor, 5th 'B' Main, 3rd Phase, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore-560064.
(Near Satellite Bus stand) Mob: 9844273572

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client propose to purchase an agricultural land i.e., the Schedule Property from **Sri. B.S. SRINIVAS,** aged about 45 years, S/o. Sri. B.V. Sampanth, and **Smt. BRINDA. B. S.** aged about 44 years, W/o. Sri B.S. Srinivas, Both are residing at No.888, 3rd Cross, 4th Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040 and they represented to my client that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property described below with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same and no other person/s has/have any right, title, interest or claim of whatsoever over the same and the property is free from all encumbrances, charges, mortgage and lien and they have not entered into any Agreement for Sale or any other commitment in respect thereof.

Any person having any right, title, interest or whatsoever claim against the Schedule Property or having any objection of whatsoever nature to the proposed transaction may, within **10 DAYS** hereof, lodge with us his/her/their/its claim in writing in this behalf with the relevant documentary proof in support of such right, title, interest or claim or objection. If no such claim or objection is received within the said period, my client will presume that no person has any such claim and will proceed with the transaction.

: SCHEDULE PROPERTY :

All that piece and parcel of an Agricultural dry land measuring to an extent of **2 Acres 04 Guntas** (excluding 0-07 guntas of A-Kharab) in New **Sy. No.83/2, Old Sy. No.83** of **JALAMANGALA Village, Kutagal Hobli, Ramanagar Taluk, Ramanagara District, Karnataka** & bounded on :

East by : Government Road, West by : Land belonging to Kalaiah and Gangaboraiah, North by : land in Sy. No.84/1 and South by : Government Road.

Srinivasa S.A., Advocate
No.79/B, 7th Main, 50 feet Road, BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050.
Mob: 9008003449
E-mail : srinilegals@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 01-04-2025

QuoteExpress

WITHOUT HARD WORK, NOTHING GROWS BUT WEEDS

GORDON B HINCKLEY

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001
O. A. No. 335/ 2023

BETWEEN : CANARA BANK, DVG Road Branch, Bangalore-560004
...Applicant

AND : Mr. G.P. Prakash & Ors
...Defendants

Summons issued under Rule 23(Viii) of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1993

To:

1. Mr. G.P. Prakash, Aged about 49 years, S/o Sri. Palakshappa.
2. Smt. Mamatha D.P, Aged about 44 years, W/o Sri. G.P. Prakash.
Both are R/at: Flat No. G02, I Block, LAA Moon Stone Apartment, 1st Phase, Electronic City, Bangalore-560100.
And Also at: No. 788/32/3, Near Church, Narayana Reddy Layout, Konappanna Agrahara, Bangalore-560100.
And Also at: C/o Dr. Mallesh, Biranahalli, Near Holalur, Channagiri Taluk, Shimogga District-577216.

Whereas, this Applicant has instituted as application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 1,13,15,881.02/- (Rupees One Crore Thirteen Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty One and Paise Two Only)** together with current & future interest and other reliefs.

The above Defendant(s) is/are therefore, hereby directed to appear to before the Tribunal in person or through and advocate or through authorized agent, in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date publication on **05.06.2025 at 10.30 A.M.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not granted.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before the proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 27.03.2025.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL,
Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from **Sri G. Puttaraju, S/o. Late Sri Gopalaiah,** Kanakpura Town, Ramnagar District, today at Bangalore, who has represented that he is the sole and absolute owner in possession and enjoyment of the Schedule Property, acquired under the Absolute Sale Deed dated 03.09.2014, from **Smt. Thimakka, W/o. Late K. Nanjunda Setty & her children**, registered as Document No.KNK-1-005569-2014-15 stored in CD No. KNKD340 in the office of the Sub Registrar Kanakpura, Ramanagara and the same is free from all liabilities and encumbrances. Any persons objecting/ claiming any right/s, charges, mortgages whatsoever on the Schedule Property may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **10 (Ten) days** from the date of this publication and any objections, claims received thereafter will not be binding on my clients and my clients will proceed thereafter as if there are no claimants/objectors.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of land bearing **Sy No. 358/1, (old Sy. No. 358 & still old Sy. No. 237)** situated at **Rayasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District,** measuring 1 Acre 35 guntas out of 3 Acre and 0.18 guntas of karab land and bounded on the:

East by: Road; West by: Halla and Sy No. 358/27; North by: Road; and South by: Sy. No. 358/2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14.

H.S. RUKKOJI RAO, Advocate,
#14, S.K. Prerana, 2nd Flr, Nagappa Road Seshadripuram, Bangalore 560020.
(M) 98455 75914
Bangalore Date : 01-04-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client, M/s Corporate Leisure and Property Developments (P) Limited, having its registered office at No.112, Ground Floor, Oxford Towers, No.139, Airport Road, Bangalore-560008, rep. by its Director Mr. Govindachary, is the **absolute owner of the below mentioned Schedule Property.** Further Mr. Ramalinga, who is working in the said company had misplaced/lost the Original Sale Deed dtd.11-10-2004 (Doc.No.18982 /2004-05) executed by K.S Ananthaswamy Iyer in favour of the company, in respect of below mentioned Schedule Property & to that effect, he has lodged Online police (Bengaluru City) complaint on 28-3-2025 (Lost report No. 1541722/2025).

Any finder/or any person/s having any type of claim, may kindly return the above mentioned Original document or file objections to the undersigned within **Seven (7) days** from the date of notice failing which, my client shall presume that the same is lost and shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims/interest whatsoever from any person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Property bearing Sy. No. 77 measuring 6 acres 8 guntas (converted to residential purpose vide Order bearing No. BDS.ALN (E) VB:SR:178/2004-05 situated at Bommenahalli Village, Bidaraha lli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on the:

East by: Bendiganahalli Village Boundary,
West by: Survey No.157, 173 & 174,
North by: Survey No. 76,
South by: Survey No. 151.

Harsha C. Mensinakai
Advocate, No.15/1, 3rd Main, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore-560080,
(M) 9880308930.

Form No.URC-2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Act

[Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorized to Register) Rules, 2014]

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made after fifteen days hereof but before the expiry of thirty days hereinafter to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, (IICA), Plot No. 6, 7, 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana) PIN code - 122052 that M/s. MARUTHI CERAMICS a partnership firm may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares.

2. The principal objects of the company are as follows:

To carry on the business of manufacturing, importing, exporting, dealing in sanitary fittings, bathroom fittings, G.I pipes, water storage tanks, hardware goods and all kinds of other sanitary accessories etc.

3. A copy of the draft Memorandum and Articles of Association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at #311, 10th Main, 100 Ft Road, HRBR Layout, Banaswadi, Bengaluru - 560 043, Karnataka, India.

4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, (IICA), Plot No. 6, 7, 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana) PIN code - 122052, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2025

For MARUTHI CERAMICS

NAVEEN. N J, Partner

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 37/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ:28–03–2025

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 5054–03–337–0–17–160 ರಾ.ಹೆ.ನವೀಕರಣ, 5054–04–337–0–01–154 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳು – ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳು, 5054–04–337–0–01–154 ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ – ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳು ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಒಟ್ಟು 4 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅಥವಾ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿರುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ **(Standard Tender Document KW - 3 & 4 ರಂತೆ)** ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 3ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹತೆಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 100.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 200.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಆಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವ 4 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (ಇ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 19465 (2ನೇ ಕರೆ), ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08–04–2025, ಇಂ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 19502 (2ನೇ ಕರೆ), ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09–04–2025, ಇಂ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 19413, 18635 ದಿನಾಂಕ:15–04–2025ರಂದು) ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ತಿಳಿಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

9% CAGR rise in air passenger traffic expected between FY25 and FY27, taking the passenger volume to nearly 485 million by FY27, ratings agency CareEdge said on Monday

FY25 EARNINGS

HAL reports flat revenue increase at ₹30,400 cr

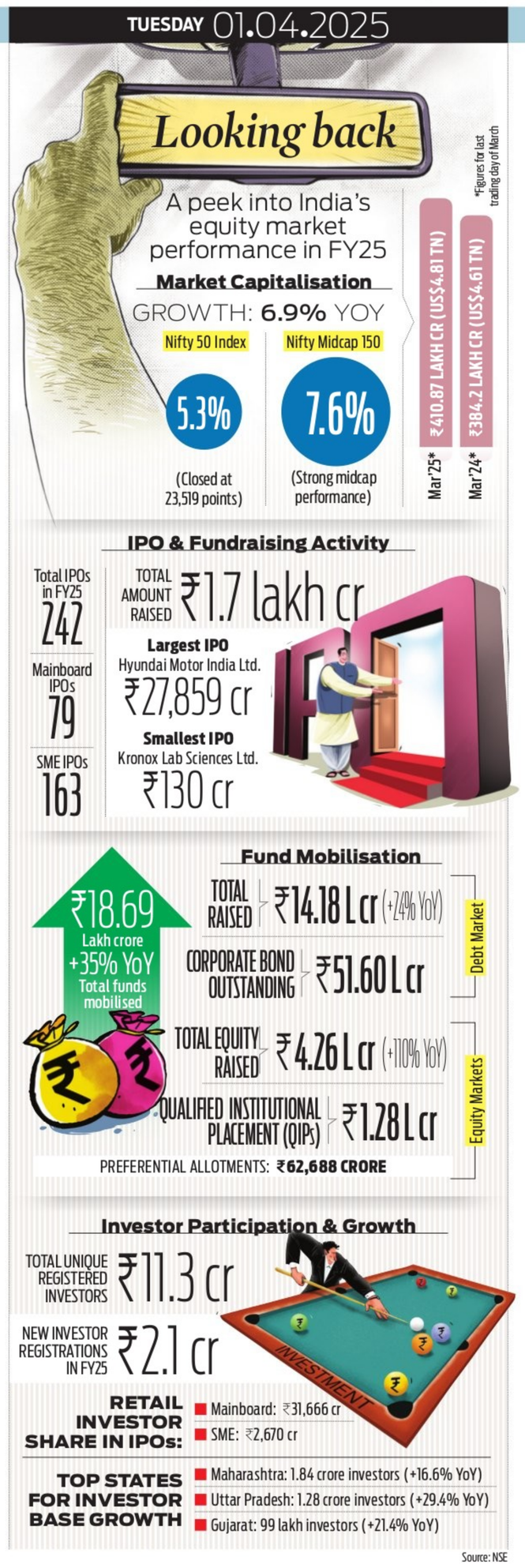
ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

STATE-OWNED Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) on Monday reported a flat growth in revenue for FY25 at ₹30,400 crore, up from ₹30,381 crore during the previous year. However, the company says that it managed to post higher revenue despite supply chain woes.

"This achievement was despite the shortfall in deliveries of LCA and ALH. The deliveries of LCA were affected due to non-availability of engines. The ALH delivery schedule too got hit due to the accident in January 2025 and subsequent grounding of the Fleet. However, the deliveries of other products and services were accelerated which helped us to maintain the top line", said D K Sunil, chairman and managing director (CMD) of the company.

In a statement, the company said with its order book significantly improving in the last 12 months, it used the year to add capacities as additional lines for LCA and ALH were put-up besides augmenting the aero engine capacity at Koraput.

The company's order book stood at ₹1.84 lakh crore as against the opening order book position of ₹94,129 crores and after adjusting current year liquidation. In FY25, HAL's share prices rose 23% to ₹4,180. However, it is down 26% from its 52-week peak of ₹5,675. The company further informed that during 2024-25, HAL received new manufacturing contracts of ₹1.02 lakh crore and ROH contracts of ₹17,500 crore.



Renault to buy 51% in Nissan JV

Completion of the acquisition is expected by the end of the first half of this year

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

RENAULT GROUP will acquire 51% stake in Renault Nissan Automotive India, and as a result would own 100% in the company, the French automaker said on Monday.

The company has, however, not revealed the total consideration of the transaction, which is subject to regulatory approvals and its completion is expected by the end of the first half of 2025.

The two automakers – Renault and Nissan – have also entered into an operational agreement to continue the current projects between Renault Group and Nissan, and define the future relationship of Renault Group and Nissan in India. Nissan will continue to use RNAIPL as a sourcing for India and export in the coming years. Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt Ltd (RNAIPL) has a manufacturing facility in Oragadam on the outskirts of Chennai, where the company produces cars for both domestic and export markets. The plant has the capacity to produce 400,000 cars annually.

Renault Group and Nissan will continue to operate jointly Renault Nissan Technology & Business Center India (RNTBCI) in which Nissan will retain 49% stake and Renault Group its 51%. "This Framework Agreement, beneficial for both parties, is the proof of the agile and efficient mindset of the new Alliance. India is a key automotive market and Renault Group will put in place an efficient industrial footprint and ecosystem," said Luca de Meo, CEO of Renault Group.

Meanwhile, Ivan Espinosa, President and CEO of Nissan, has said that the company remains committed to the Indian market, delivering vehicles tailored to local consumer needs while ensuring top-notch sales and service for our existing and future customers. "India will remain a hub for our research and development, digital and other knowledge services. "Our plans for new SUVs in the India market remain intact, and we will continue our vehicle exports to other markets under the 'One Car, One World' business strategy for India," he said.

The company said in a media statement that the transaction will have an impact on its free cash flow to the tune of $200 million in FY25.

Our plans for new SUVs in India remain intact, we will continue vehicle exports to other markets under 'One Car, One World' biz strategy for India

Ivan Espinosa, Prez, CEO, Nissan

Current projects

The two automakers – Renault & Nissan – have entered into an operational pact to continue current projects between Renault and Nissan and define future relationship of Renault Group and Nissan in India

Aditya Birla group sells pulp, paper biz to ITC for ₹ 3,500 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ADITYA BIRLA REAL ESTATE LTD (ABREL) will sell its pulp and paper business – Century Pulp and Paper (CPP) -- situated in Lalkuan, Uttarakhand by way of slump sale to ITC Limited for ₹3,498 core.

The company said in a statement the divestment of the pulp and paper undertaking is a value unlocking exercise for ABREL. "It will further enable the Company to pursue growth opportunities in its core business—real estate," it said. Speaking on the transaction, RK Dalmia, managing director, Aditya Birla Real Estate Ltd, said: "The divestment of the Pulp and Paper undertaking by ABREL is a strategic portfolio choice and unlocks value for the shareholders of ABREL. The company has embarked on a transformational growth phase, and this move will further sharpen its focus on real estate to drive sustained value creation."

He added that over the years, CPP has become synonymous with strong performance and high sustainability standards. "To take it to the next level in size and value, the company is pleased to have found in ITC, a credible and well-established player," he said.

The lump sum consideration is subject to certain adjustments as per the agreement. The transaction is contingent on necessary statutory and regulatory approvals including approvals from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) and shareholders. JM Financial acted as the exclusive financial advisor and AZB & Partners acted as the legal advisor to ABREL for this transaction.

Indians' overseas asset holding falls by $40 bn in Dec quarter

BEN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

ASSETS held by Indians overseas declined by $40.1 billion, while the claims of non-residents' on the country also declined by $29.1 billion, resulting in an increase in the net foreign liabilities of the country by $11 billion to $364.5 billion during the December 2024 quarter.

The fall was primarily due to the valuation effect as the rupee was under tremendous pressure during this period. According to the quarterly numbers relating to the country's international investment position for December 2024 quarter released by the RBI, net claims of non-residents on the country increased by $11 billion during the reporting period.

The decline in Indian residents' foreign assets during the period was mainly due to a $70.1 billion decline in the reserve assets, which however increased by $ 13.2 billion over December 2023. The fall in foreign liabilities was due to the decline in inward direct and portfolio investments during the period, though trade credit, loans and currency and deposits recorded an increase, the central bank said.

Reserve assets accounted for 59% of the country's total international financial assets during the reporting quarter. Variation in the rupee's exchange rate against other currencies impacted the change in liabilities, when valued in the dollar terms. Meanwhile, the ratio of the international assets to liabilities improved to 74.7 during this period from 73.1 a year ago, while the share of debt liabilities in total external liabilities rose to 53.6% in Q3FY25 from 52.9% in Q2FY25 and 51.2% in Q3FY24.

Meanwhile, the country's external debt also rose 10.7% to $717.9 billion during this period, from $648.7 billion in December 2023. The external debt to GDP ratio was 19.1, and US dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component, followed by the rupee, the Japanese yen, SDR (special drawing rights held with the IMF to the tune of $12.7 billion), and the euro.

Excluding the valuation effect, the increase in external debt would have been $17.9 billion on-quarter against $5.2 billion during the December 2024 quarter over September 2024 quarter.

"US dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component of external debt, with a share of 54.8%, followed by the rupee (30.6%), Japanese yen (6.1%), SDR (4.7%) and the euro (3%)," te RBI said.

The outstanding external debt of the Central government declined while that of the non-government sector increased, it noted, adding the share of outstanding debt of non-financial corporations in the total external debt was 36.5%, followed by deposit-taking corporations (except the central bank) at 27.8%, Central government (22.1%) and other financial corporations (8.7%).

Feb credit card spends decline to 7-month low

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

MONTHLY credit card spends dropped to a seven-month low of ₹1.67 trillion (₹1.67 cr) in February as against spending of ₹1.84 trillion in January 2025, according to the latest Reserve Bank data.

The month also saw card issuing banks gearing down their aggressive card issuance with the number of issuance rising marginally to 109.31 million in February from 108.87 million in January. In February 2024, the number stood at 100.60 million, which by December 2024 had jumped to 108.6 million. This means that the industry added only 0.44 million cards in the reporting month, as against issuing nearly three times more at 1.10 million. Even in January the net addition was 0.81 million, which nearly halved to 0.44 million in February.

These developments come amid the continuing stress in unsecured loans, leading to rising debt levels of households, which has been rising since the past a few years as salary growth has been lagging inflation for those already employed and those ready for employment were finding jobs a distant reality.

'Equity conversion to ease Vi's fin stress'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE government's decision to convert ₹36,950 crore of Vodafone Idea's (VIL) outstanding spectrum auction dues into equity is likelyto ease the telecom operator's financial stress, enabling it to focus more on improving operations and tech, say industry experts.

As per Prashanth Tapse, Research analyst and sr vice-president (Research) at Mehta Equities, the company's future outlook will depend on its ability to launch 5G mobile broadband services and manage subscriber churn.

While the recent development may bring short-term relief to investor sentiments, long-term outlook remains subdued.

"The recent development that the government is raising its stake to 48.99% in Vi will ease some financial stress and help Vi to focus more on improving operations and technology. Despite this material development the challenges to raise capital and network expansion will continue to dent investors' concerns. These developments may influence investor sentiments but will not address the challenges," said Tapse.

Vi selects Nokia to expand optical network

NEW DELHI: Nokia announced on Monday that it has been selected by Vodafone Idea (Vi) to upgrade and expand its optical transport network across key metro and circle locations in India. The upgrade will utilise Nokia's leading optical switching technology to increase network capacity, supporting 4G data growth and paving the way for VIL's 5G rollout. "Nokia's innovative optical solutions align perfectly with our goal to enhance customer experience and ensure robust network readiness for future demands," said Jagbir Singh, CTO at Vi. *ENS*

'Mutual funds should not launch thematic funds at market peaks'

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

RADHIKA Gupta, MD and CEO, Edelweiss Mutual Fund spoke to TNIE on current equity market situation, closing of SIPs and the right kind of mutual fund portfolio one should have. Excerpt:

With recent market volatility, how are mutual fund distributors coping with SIP closures?

The February data shows SIP growth has been stable despite market conditions. Interestingly, SIP closures are significantly lower in regular plans versus direct plans. Distributors play a crucial advisory role – when markets dip, they counsel investors against impulsive exits. Experienced distributors who have set proper expectations face minimal issues, while newer ones may struggle. The pain is more visible in direct channels where investors lack guidance.

Are thematic funds a necessary evil for the mutual fund industry?

Choice is essential in our diverse market. However, thematic funds must follow two rules: First, avoid ultra-narrow themes (like a hypothetical "cables & wires fund"). Stick to broad, sustainable themes like tech or consumption. Second, never launch a thematic fund at market peaks. At Edelweiss, we launched our IT fund when the sector was out of favor. Our philosophy is "80% dal chawal" (core funds like flexicap) and "20% pickle-chutney" (thematic/sectoral).

Explain your "dal chawal" investing philosophy.

Dal chawal funds are timeless, digestible core holdings – flexicap, large-cap, hybrid funds that work in all markets. Thematic funds are like pickles – flavorful but should never dominate your plate. Even mid-cap allocations are tricky in India because our "mid-caps" are often ₹80,000-90,000 crore companies! That is why I prefer flexicap funds that dynamically adjust across market caps.

How are younger investors changing the mutual fund landscape?

There's a generational shift. Older investors started with RDs and tax-saving funds. Today's 25-year-olds begin with SIPs and passive funds. But there's also dangerous speculation – crypto, SME IPOs, even borrowing for F&O trades. That is the scary part. Many youngsters don't realize that when you are 25, you have 10 years to build wealth – yet they chase "get rich quick" content.

Recent market corrections, while painful, serve as necessary reality checks.

Institutional investors like mutual funds face criticism for participating in overvalued IPOs. Your take?

As managers of public money, we reject 70-80% of IPOs. Remember, an IPO is just one event in a company's journey. Page Industries fell 30% on listing in 2007 but became a multibagger. The problem is short-termism – judging funds based on single IPO allocations. Our retail IPO fund scrutinizes every opportunity, but investors must understand institutions invest with a 3-5 year horizon.

China proposes slashing fund managers' salaries for underperformance. Is this model viable?

Absolutely not. Indian fund managers already have "skin in the game" – 20% of my salary is mandated into our funds (I personally invest 70%). Performance-linked bonuses, ESOPs, and career risks naturally align our interests with investors. Extreme penalties would make managers risk-averse, harming long-term returns. Our trustees and boards already provide robust oversight.

With tax benefits shrinking, what is pulling investors to mutual funds now?

Pure growth potential. The 12.5% LTCG tax remains competitive globally. Interestingly, STT impacts traders more than long-term investors. The bigger shift is generational – post-1990s Indians have only seen rising prosperity. They invest not for tax savings but wealth creation, though we need to curb speculative tendencies.

As a mutual fund company, what should be the industry's key priorities for the next 3 years?

The mutual fund industry has one mission. It should have 75 crore unique investors from 5 crore through initiatives like ₹250 SIPs.

Second, expanding our distribution network from 1 lakh to 10 lakh advisors to boost financial inclusion and entrepreneurship.

Third, fostering product diversity while maintaining rigorous standards – we will see more AMCs with distinct styles, and possibly more listings like ours.

Mensik stuns Djokovic to win Miami Open

Czech teenager **Jakub Mensik** upset Novak Djokovic 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4) to win the Miami Open at Hard Rock Stadium on Sunday, denying the Serb his 100th career title. The 19-year-old, ranked 54th in the world, claimed his first title on the ATP Tour with an outstanding display of powerful tennis. The final was delayed by almost six hours due to heavy rain.

IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT DHONI

Veteran's blade has clearly been affecting CSK over the last few years & it's now beginning to reflect quite regularly

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Chennai

WHEN it was time to sign players before the first edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), Chennai Super Kings, perhaps because of their prior experience in cricket, went against the grain. Even as six of the eight franchises opted to have an icon player to try and have an immediate bond with the side's stakeholders, including the fans, CSK opted to buy one and make the player the face of the franchise. Even before the auctions, it was preordained that MS Dhoni was going to be a Chennai player. They were willing to break the bank for him, willing to go where no other team wanted to. That was 2008.

In 2025, the calculation they had once shown on the auction table has deserted them. In 2008, they were brave to hedge their bets on Dhoni. In 2025, the bravery they had once shown has deserted them.

It begs the question. Is that the best use of resources?

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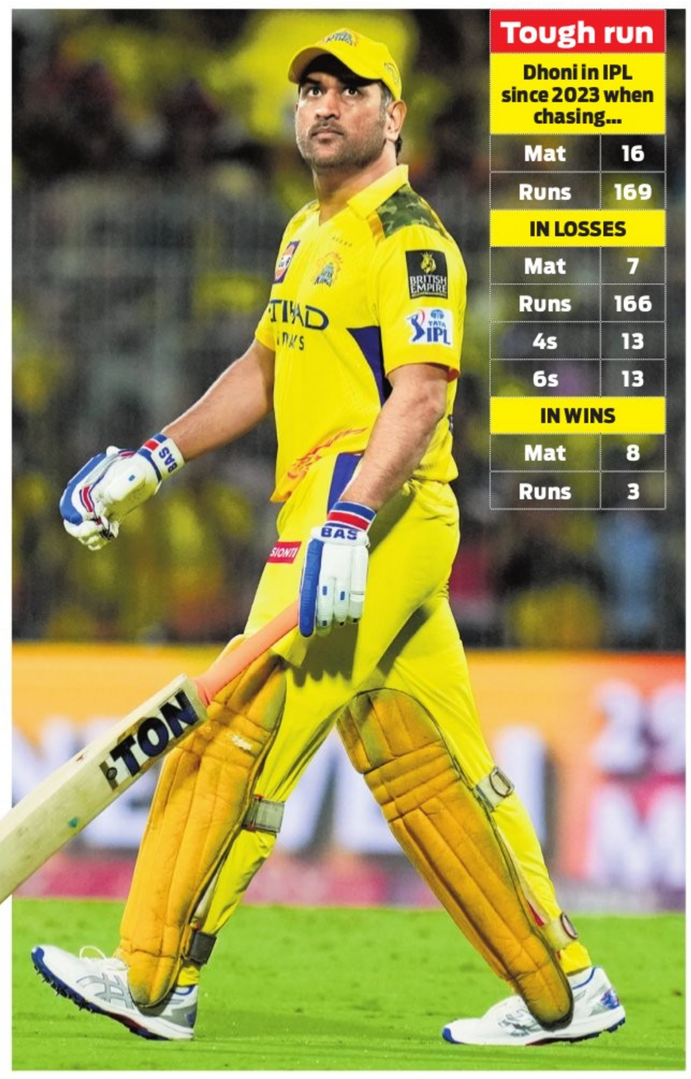
T20 cricket is all about resource maximisation. Especially in the IPL, where the Impact Player rule has changed the goalposts. Teams can now go in with eight or even nine batters/pure all-rounders and as many as six bowlers capable of bowling four overs once every three days. Even if the Impact Player rule has somewhat diminished the role of the all-rounder, elite multi-skilled players are always in demand. Wicket-keepers who can bat in the top four? A keeper who doubles up as a powerplay basher? Fantastic. It's how T20 cricket has evolved. Three of the top seven most expensive players at the 2025 auctions were keepers who bat in the top-four (add Phil Salt and the retained Nicholas Pooran and Henrich Klaasen and there's a definite trend).



Tough run

Dhoni in IPL since 2023 when chasing...	
Mat	16
Runs	169
IN LOSSES	
Mat	7
Runs	166
4s	13
6s	13
IN WINS	
Mat	8
Runs	3

Since the beginning of the 2024 edition of the IPL, nine of the 10 franchises have had their designated keepers either open, come at No 3 or No 4. If you are a keeper, you have to contribute with the bat and contribute big runs. You can no longer hide your keeper in the lower middle-order.

It shows. Since the beginning of the 2022 installment of the league, other teams have zoomed ahead with respect to runs scored by the designated keeper. At the top, you have Lucknow with 1477 runs (four designated keepers) across 46 innings. In last place? Chennai's one designated keeper with 527 in 38 innings. The gap between 9th and 10th itself is yawning (Punjab Kings' four designated keepers have made 808 in 39 outings to the crease).

A lack of quality, match-shaping runs from Dhoni's blade has clearly been affecting the side over the last few years. It's now beginning to show on a fairly consistent basis.

It begs the question. Is that the best use of resources?

Low returns

*Runs scored by designated keepers for all 10 franchises since 2023...

Team	Innings	Runs	Players	S/R
SRH	31	1058	3	172.03
RR	32	999	2	153.22
LSG	31	969	4	140.63
MI	32	798	3	143.52
KKR	30	795	5	149.15
DC	30	718	5	152.76
GT	31	606	4	128.93
PBKS	27	515	3	142.26
RCB	31	484	3	156.63
CSK	26	311	1	195.59

*Till the end of CSKvRR

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In T20 cricket, entry points began to gain significance over the last five years or so. Usually reserved for finishers, they would lend sufficient ballast at the death but would also be expected to come in earlier than usual on a good batting strip whether setting a target or chasing one. They can take down pace at the death but also be adept at hitting spin. Among keepers, Klaasen is the gold standard in this particular cohort.

In 2024, Klaasen came out as early as the 9th over. This is the norm among keepers across sides. It ensures dexterity and fluidity.

Dhoni's presence means his side cannot have that flexibility anymore. "Yeah, it's a time thing," coach Stephen Fleming said after their loss against Rajasthan Royals on Sunday night. "MS judges it. His body is; his knees aren't what they used to be. And he's moving okay, but there's still an attrition aspect to it. He can't bat 10 overs running full stick.

"So he will gauge on the day what he can give us. If the game's in the balance like today, he will go a little bit earlier and he backs other players when other opportunities are up."

The other reason why they may loathe to send Dhoni in the middle phase of the game is his game against spin. Since 2022, he strikes at 103.3 against the slower bowlers — 92 runs off 89 deliveries. He doesn't get out (average of 46) but he doesn't move the game forward.

It begs the question. Is that the best use of resources?

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In the 18 years (16 if you want to exclude the two years when the side was banned) Dhoni has known Chennai and vice-versa, the former has vowed the hoi polloi with the many hats he has worn. Maverick, long-maned leader. Inspirational captain. Loyal. Figurehead. Elder statesman.

The one common thread connecting all of those phases? The magic.

Not anymore or so it would seem. When the lights were switched off at the MA Chidambaram Stadium early Saturday morning following the defeat versus Royal Challengers Bengaluru, it was a metaphor for something more fundamental. Magic leaving the building.

Once upon a time, this city of close to seven million believed that no game was up till the time Dhoni was out there. These days, there is a reverence but the belief has gone.

At some level, Dhoni himself may have lost that belief. On Friday, he walked in when the target was 98 off 28 after eschewing the opportunity to come in when the Required Run Rate wasn't as stratospheric.

He hit a few sixes but the Yellow Wall knew the game was up. It's rather telling that Dhoni hasn't hit a single boundary in a winning Chennai chase since a game against Mumbai in 2022.

It begs the question. Is that the best use of resources?

Uncle behind the rise of Aniket, the new IPL sensation

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

IT was not an easy decision but Amit Verma took it when he was around 15. He was inconsolable as he had lost his sister-in-law, Mamta Verma. His nephew, Aniket, was only three then and more than anyone Amit was worried about him. The worries only grew when his brother Umshankar got married again. Amit then decided to shift Aniket from Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh to Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh where he was living with his mother Parvati Verma. It was a big responsibility and to ensure he doesn't fail, Amit started working when he was not even 18. All those memories flooded back when Aniket, now 23, slammed a 41-ball 74 for Sunrisers Hyderabad against Delhi Capitals in Visakhapatnam on Sunday. "Aniket was always close to me and mother, hence we decided to bring him to Bhopal after his mother's death," Amit told this daily.

But shifting Aniket to Bhopal was not the toughest decision Amit has ever taken. Instead, it was his decision to support Aniket in his quest to excel in cricket. "Given the uncertainties the game posed, it was the toughest decision. Had he not made it to where he is now, everybody would have blamed me saying I brought him to Bhopal and then spoiled him by letting him choose cricket as his career," admitted the paternal uncle.

All those uncertainties are things of the past as Aniket, with his scintillating knock that comprised five fours and six sixes, once again reposed the faith put on him by his uncle. It all might look pleasing now but it was extremely difficult when the journey started around 13 years ago. "Initially he went to a Railway academy nearby our locality. After three years, the coaches there asked me to take him to Jyoti (Prakash Tyagi) sir who was coaching aspiring cricketers at the Ankur Cricket Academy. They were of the opinion that Aniket would get stagnant if he stayed at the Railway academy. I was working with a workshop of a vehicle showroom and earning around ₹3000 then. I was not in position to pay fees for an elite academy like Ankur. Jyoti sir, however, never charged anything after realising the true potential of Aniket. He in fact offered help in the form of providing cricket gears to Aniket whenever he needed them," reminisced Amit.

Aniket Verma (R) with his uncle Amit | SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Always a good batter, Aniket had been showing signs of promise but was somehow not getting a chance to play for the senior Madhya Pradesh team. Then Madhya Pradesh League, a T20 franchise-based tournament, happened last year. Picked by Bhopal Leopards, he racked up 273 runs from six innings. It was his innings of 123 off just 41 balls which was laced with 13 sixes and eight fours that put him into the spotlight. "At least five franchises called him for trials after the MP League and he attended three of them — Sunrisers Hyderabad, Delhi Capitals and Lucknow Supergiants. He was picked by the Hyderabad franchise for his base price of ₹30 lakh. It was after the auction he played a T20 game for Madhya Pradesh in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy but got out for a golden duck."

Coach Tyagi, who had predicted Aniket would climb up the ladder when the latter was only in his teens, is happy with his ward's success. "He made 256 runs during Ankur League when he was just 12 or 13. I told him then he will score 400 as well. He did that during an Inter-Divisional match for Bhopal against Chambal a couple of years ago. He always has that ability to hit hard and score runs in bulk but it's his hard work that made him successful. This is just the beginning. I am quite sure he will go places," said the coach.

The promise was always there but still it was a gamble as Aniket's studies has taken a back seat due to cricket. Amit, however, was not perturbed. "Unlike kids of his age, he would eat, drink and sleep cricket. It was difficult at times. Buying costly cricket gears was difficult as I sometimes have to borrow money to make things available. But when I brought Aniket to Bhopal, I had vowed to myself that I would never let him compromise on anything. It was not that he got everything on demand but I made sure he just has to play cricket without worrying about other aspects," said Amit.

Aniket's journey has been fascinating so far given the point from where he had started. Uncle Amit, coach Tyagi and others who played a role, no matter how small or big, in this journey will only hope that it only gets better from here on.

Kings face Giants challenge

AS LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS TAKE ON PUNJAB KINGS, A LOOK...

PBKS look for momentum

They kicked off with a sensational start, especially in the batting department with Shreyas Iyer leading the way. And they would want to keep the momentum going against Super Giants. Expect another runfest with Iyer leading the way.

Will PBKS stop Pooran?

He has been the most consistent batter of the IPL in recent years and there is a reason why Nicholas Pooran was retained at ₹21 crore. He will be the biggest threat to Punjab and whether they will be able to stop him or not will determine their fortunes.

Can captain Rishabh step up?

Rishabh Pant hasn't had the greatest of starts and would want to get going in his first home game with Super Giants.

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS VS PUNJAB KINGS, LUCKNOW
LIVE ON STAR SPORTS & JIOHOTSTAR, 7.30 PM

Dream IPL debut for MI's Ashwani

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

LEFT-ARM pacer Ashwani Kumar picked up four wickets for 24 runs before Ryan Rickleton smashed a fifty to help Mumbai Indians beat Kolkata Knight Riders in the Indian Premier League on Monday.

Chasing 117, Mumbai got off to a good start thanks to Rickleton, who along with Rohit Sharma took MI to 46/1 before the latter fell. Once Sharma got out for 13 runs from 12 balls, Rickleton (62 n.o) and Suryakumar Yadav (27 n.o) took them across the line. Earlier, Kumar ran through the the Kolkata middle-order after Deepak Chahar and Trent Boult took the early wickets. KKR were down to 45/5 when Rinku Singh and Manish Pandey got together. They tried to revive the innings, but Kumar first got Rinku and then followed it up with the wickets of Pandey and Andre Russell. Soon, it was all over for KKR as they were all out for 116 in 16.2 overs.

MI's Ashwani Kumar (C) reacts after taking the wicket of KKR's Ajinkya Rahane | AFP

Brief scores: KKR 116 in 16.2 ovs (Angkrish 26, Ramandeep 22; Ashwani 4/24) **lost to** MI 121/2 in 12.5 ovs (Rickleton 62 n.o, Suryakumar 27 n.o; Russell 2/29).

Upbeat United take on Forest as PL returns

AGENCIES @ London

RUBEN AMORIM says the "energy is different" at Manchester United after a mini-revival but admits their confidence is fragile as they prepare to return to action following the international break.

United, who travel to face high-flying Nottingham Forest on Tuesday, are a lowly 13th in the Premier League, 12 points off the top four with just nine games to go.

But they are unbeaten in seven matches in all competitions, though they exited the FA Cup on penalties at home to Fulham during that sequence.

Amorim (*in pic*), whose injury crisis is easing, was asked on Monday whether his team could pick up where they left off before the internationals.

"I'm really confident. I feel that the players are more confident, the energy is different," said the Portuguese manager, who took charge at Old Trafford in November.

"But I also know that this could change with the results. So we are focussed on maintaining the energy. We worked on some things that we have a lot to improve.

"Even winning the games, we can acknowledge that we have a lot to improve. But we are in a different moment, more confident and ready for this final two months of the season."

United have seven games in April, including a season-defining Europa League quarter-final against Lyon and tough Premier League matches against Manchester City and Newcastle.

Defenders Harry Maguire and Leny Yoro are available again and Amorim said Ayden Heaven's injury was not as bad as first feared. **Tuesday's matches** (IST Wednesday): Arsenal vs Fulham (12:15am), Wolves vs West Ham (12:15am); Nottm Forest vs Man United (12:30am).

Happy with elevation, umpire Madanagopal eager to keep up

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

A FEW days back the International Cricket Council (ICC) included Allahudien Paleker of South Africa and England's Alex Wharf in the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires which features Nitin Menon as the only Indian, while J Madanagopal has been promoted to the Emerging Panel. With this, Madanagopal will be eligible to officiate in overseas Tests and ODIs.

"I am very happy with the new elevation. I am looking forward to it. I have been in the international panel for a while, it is a natural progression," Madanagopal told this daily. "It's (elevation) is a good opportunity and will continue to do the same work I have been doing with a lot of sincerity and presence of mind."

The former Tamil Nadu cricketer has so far officiated in one Test, 22 ODIs and 42 T20Is. Having made his debut in women's one-dayers back in 2013, Madanagopal stood as an umpire for the first time in a men's international during the 2021 India-New Zealand T20I at Ranchi. Madanagopal made his World Cup debut in the T20 World Cup that was played in the West Indies and USA last year. Since 2007, he has been on the BCCI panel of umpires and has emulated the likes of S Venkataraghavan and S Ravi, the other umpires from Tamil Nadu, to officiate in a World Cup. Today, thanks to live telecast, umpires are under huge pressure. A small error gets blown up and use of DRS adds more pressure for them. "Umpiring is always an instinct. You do your preparation, you study the angles and then, based on the evidence in front of you, make a decision. There's no pressure. The game is getting benefited. Right decisions are made. The game moves on in the right direction. It's absolutely fine. It's not about pressure. It's about getting the game in the right direction. So we are happy with DRS," he said. "Technology is definitely better for the game. If a human element makes a mistake, it gets corrected by technology. It is good for the game. The game flows in the right direction."

Many attribute Madanagopal's elevation due to consistency and honesty. "I mean, I didn't even think about it (elevation). I have been doing my umpiring with all sincerity. I see it as an opportunity and not as a reward. You are doing your job well, somebody is noticing the right way I go about things, so I am happy and see it as an opportunity for me to do (umpire) more games. Probably, that's how I see it," he said. "As an umpire I look forward to doing good matches, good tournaments, good opportunities. I am definitely happy. The TNCA has always had a rich cricket culture. Yeah, so, I am happy to know that I am in elite company."

Being a former cricketer has helped him make decisions. "See, when you begin umpiring, it (being a first-class cricketer) definitely gives you an edge in the first few years. After that, you totally get into your umpiring mode. In 2-3 years, a non-player will pick up all those things. It is more about how you perform, compared to how you learn. Learn to manage games, work with players, and relationships," revealed Madanagopal.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Brathwaite steps down as West Indies Test captain

ST JOHN'S: Kraigg Brathwaite has stepped down as skipper of the West Indies Test team after four years in charge, Cricket West Indies (CWI) said after a shift in leadership roles saw Shai Hope taking over captaincy of the T20I side. Brathwaite, 32, was appointed as West Indies' Test captain in March 2021.

Sri Lankan cricket president gets fourth term in office

COLOMBO: Sri Lankan cricket board president Shammi Silva was re-elected unopposed on Monday to serve a fourth consecutive term despite attempts by a former sports minister to remove him. It was the third time Silva had been elected uncontested by Sri Lanka cricket's annual general meeting.

Rajgir to host men's Asia Cup hockey from Aug 29 to Sep 7

NEW DELHI: Rajgir will host the men's Asia Cup hockey tournament from August 29 to September 7, which will also serve as a qualifying meet for the 2026 FIH World Cup. Bihar's historical city Rajgir was awarded the hosting rights following a successful conduct of women's Asian Champions Trophy.

IWL: Murmu's double strike helps Sribhumi FC post win

BARRACKPORE (WB): Sribhumi FC got their first win in three games with a 4-2 victory over Nita Football Academy in their Indian Women's League (IWL) match at the Bibhutibhushan Stadium here on Monday. Mousumi Murmu (33rd, 45+2), Sandra Atinga (42nd) and Bala Devi (52nd) scored for Sribhumi FC.

SAMBALPURI BASTRALAYA HLCS LTD.
AT/PO/DIST.: BARGARH, ODISHA, PIN-768 028
HT&H Department, Govt. of Odisha

No.511 **TENDER CALL NOTICE** Dt.29.03.2025

Sealed tenders/quotations are invited from reputed Manufacturer / Authorized Supplier for supply of one Boiler for installation of the same at our Dye House Sambalpuri Bastralaya HLCS Ltd., Bargarh alongwith replacement of steam pipeline and erection of Chimney. The details specification, term and conditions and date for submission of tender/quotation for submitting the bid document are available on the website **www.sambalpuribastra.com & www. bargarh .odisha.gov.in**

serves the right to reject any or all the quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

SD/-
Managing Director

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, MEGA LIFT BHUBANESWAR

Plot no. A 8/2, Bhoinagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, PIN-751022, E-Mail: cemlpwr.od@gmail.com

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. 16ML/2024-25

A-1239: On Line open tender is invited for EPC Contract (Turn Key Basis) for Mega Lift, Odisha

1. **Name of Work:** Execution of 06 nos. of Lift Irrigation Schemes with intake points on Rushikulya River, Ramnadi River, Jira Nalla & Rushikulya River (Near ISS Singipur) having Command area between 500Ha. to 2000 Ha. in **Cluster No. XXXI** in the district of Ganjam including its distribution network, up to 1 Ha Chak having total planned Culturable Command Area of 6,343 Ha. on "EPC -Turn Key" basis including power system connectivity and Operation & Maintenance of complete commissioned schemes for fifteen years.
2. **Period of completion:** 36 (Thirty-six) calendar months including rainy season.
3. **Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal** : 03.04.2025, 10 A.M.
4. **Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal** : 23.04.2025 up to 5.00 P.M
5. **Name & address of the officer inviting Bid** :Chief Engineer, Megalift A-8/2, Bhoi Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Pin - 751022

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **"https://tendersodisha.gov.in"**

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Megalift Bhubaneswar

OIPR- 32504/11/0037/2425

AXIS BANK
Retail Lending and Payment Group
(Local Office/Branch): Axis Bank Ltd, # 45 Prestige Libra, 1st Floor, Regional Passport Office, Near: Urvashi Theatre, Lalbagh Road, Lalbagh, Bangalore-560 027.
Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC – 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai – 400 708. Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad – 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9 Sub Rule (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on **24th APRIL 2025 for recovery of Rs.3,09,42,386/- (Rupees Three Crore Nine Lakhs Forty Two Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Six Only) dues as on 28.07.2021** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from : **(1) Vijayaprasad Reddy Y K,** 4th Floor, 3rd Cross, 5th Main, BOB Colony, JP Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore-560078, **Also at: Vijayaprasad Reddy Y K** Vasavi No.75 757, 10th Main, 4th Block, Bangalore-560011 **(Applicant /Mortgagor), (2) Kasturi C V,** No.B708, Brigade Palm Springs Appts, Brigade Millenium Road, 24th Main, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore-560078, **Also at: Kasturi C V,** Flat No.305 Mahaveer Citael Appts, Brigade Millenum Road, 24th Main, J P Nagar, 5th Phase, Bangalore-560078, **Also At: Kasturi C V** IBC Knowledge Park, Block D, 3rd Floor, C Tower 4/1, Bannerghatta Road, Near New Dairy Circle, Bangalore-560029 **(Co-Applicant)** in Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details: -

Known Encumbrances (If any)	**Not known to the secured creditor. The unpaid charges towards electricity, maintenance, Tax etc. if any, as applicable**
Reserve Price (in Rs.)	**Rs. 5,50,00,000/- (Rupees Five Crore Fifty Lakhs Only)**
Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)	**Rs.55,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Only) through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd.' payable at Bangalore.**
Bid Incremental Amount	**Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Only)**
Last Date, Time and Venue for Submission of Bids / Tender with EMD	**Till 23th April 2025 latest by 04:00 P.M.** at Axis Bank Ltd, # 45 Prestige Libra, 1st Floor, Regional Passport Office, Near: Urvashi Theatre, Lalbagh Road, Lalbagh, Bangalore-560027, Addressed to **Mr. Raghunath**
Date, Time, and Venue for Public Auction	**On 24th April 2025, between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon** with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com.** e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available on the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

DETAILS OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY: SCHEDULE: Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.40/534/77, khata No.534/77 (Portion of Old VP Khata No.534 Presently portion of VP Khata No.77) situated at Puttenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West 60 Feet and North to South 40 Feet totally measuring 2400 Sq. ft coming under BBMP limits which is bounded on: East by : Property No.41, West by : Road, North by : Road, South by : Property No.43 (Item No.2).

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.43/534/77, khata No.534/77 (Portion of Old VP Khata No.534 Presently portion of VP Khata No.77) situated at Puttenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West 60 Feet and North to South 40 Feet totally measuring 2400 Sq. ft coming under BBMP limits which is bounded on: East by : Property No.42, West by : Road, North by : property No.40 (Item No.1), South by : Property No.44.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com

The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com.** For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Raghunath at Axis Bank Ltd,** # 45 Prestige Libra, 1st Floor, Regional Passport Office, Near: Urvashi Theatre, Lalbagh Road, Lalbagh, Bangalore-560027 **(Mobile No. 919886960484, Email ID: raghunath1@axisbank.com)**

This Notice should be considered as 15 Days' Notice to the Borrowers/Co-borrowers/Guarantors under Rule 9 Sub Rule (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2002.

Date : 31.03.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **AXIS BANK LTD.,**

Chola *Enter a better life*

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Corporate Office: "CHOLA CREST", C 54 & 55, Super B-4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. Branch Address: 2nd Floor, No.1143, MIG 16th B Cross 2nd Stage, 'B' Sector, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore-560064

[RULE 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **M/s Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited,** having its registered office at "CHOLA CREST". C 54 & 55, Super B-4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 and Municipal No.45, (Old Nos. 45& 45/1), Second Floor, Lalbagh Road, Bangalore - 560027. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13[12] read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice Dated 13-05-2024 (Loan Account Nos. HE01YAA00000046998)** calling upon the Borrowers **1) Akka Setty Lokanath Manoj Kumar, 2) Sithara Belur Mahesha Guptha, Both are residing at:** No.1176, Srinidhi Nilaya, 10th Main, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar Bangalore, Karnataka-560040. **3) Akkashetty Lakshminarayan Shetty Lokanath N, 4) Harsha Akkashetty Lokanath, Both Are Residing At:** No.727, Agrahara Magadi Town, Magadi Ramanagar, Karnataka-562120 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.34,65,123.00 (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Sixty Five Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Three Only) as on 13-05-2024** with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the Amount, Notice is hereby given to the Borrowers in Particular and the Public in General that the undersigned as per the Order Dated 11-02-2025 Passed by the Principal Senior Civil Judge & CJM AT, RAMANAGAR in Crl.Misc.05/2025 has taken Possession of the Property bescribed herein Below In Exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13[4], 13[12] of the Said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the Said Rules Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 On this **29th March 2025.**

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of **M/s Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited,** for an amount of being **Rs.34,65,123.00 (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Sixty Five Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Three Only) as on 13-05-2024** and interest and charges thereon

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of Property bearing No.3-509-92, Assessment No.795/727, Situated At Agrahara Street, Magadi Town, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagara District and **Bounded On: East By:** House Property belongs to Latha H and Passage, **West By:** House Property of Venkatesh Prabhu, **North By:** House of Puttanarasimha Shetty, **South By:** Agrahara Street, Measuring East to West 8.534417 Meters and North to South 14.935230 Meters Totally Measuring 127.462916 Square Meters, and along with building constructed Thereon.

Date: 01-04-2025 **M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited**
Place: Ramanagara **Sd/- Authorised Officer**

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

Office of the Chief Engineer (Project),3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.

No.:BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cstr&DCW)/2533/2024-25 Date:28.03.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Through KPP Portal only)

BWSSB invites tenders from two stage tenders eligible contractors for the work of **Project Monitoring Consultancy for the work of providing water supply feeder main, construction of Ground Level Reservoirs, Over Head Tanks and allied works for Dr. Shivaram Karantha Layout, Bengaluru.**

Amount put to tender : **Rs. 124.40 Lakhs.**
EMD: **Rs. 2.00 Lakhs.**

The last date and time for receipt of completed tenders is on **15.04.2025 upto 15:00 Hrs.** The bids will be opened on **16.04.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.** The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact undersigned office during the working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/6000/2024-25 **Sd/- Chief Engineer(Project)**

Government of Karnataka

Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga

ಸಂ.ಜಿಪಂಚಿ/ಆ(15)ಹೊಸ ಗ್ರಂಥಾಲಯ/ಸಿಆರ್/182/2024–25
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.03.2025

e-Tender Notification

Grant has been sanctioned under Central Government's "Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment' for purchase of Furniture to Libraries being newly started in the State. Towards this Short-Term Tender is invited in two cover system through e-procurement portal from eligible agencies/firms for supply of the total furniture. For further information contact during office hours.

Instructions to Tenderers:- (1) Tender documents can be downloaded through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Any corrigendum, extension of time period and other instructions related to this Tender Notice should be obtained from the concerned website and ill not be informed separately. **(2)** Firms interested in providing the above service should obtain Registration from e-Governance Department and get the Digital Signature certified. Detailed instructions regarding obtaining Registration and Certification can be obtained through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

(1) Approx. Value of Tender Rs. 1,40,00,000/- **(2)** Date for downloading Tender Commencement from website From 28.03.2025 to 29.04.2025 **(3)** Last Date for submission of Tender Bids (Through website) 29.04.2025 **(4)** Last date for providing Desk Samples 29.04.2025 **(5)** Date and Time of opening the Technical Bid 02.05.2025 at 11.00 AM **(6)** Possible Date of opening the Financial Bid 05.05.2025 **(7)** E.M.D. Amount Rs. 2,80,000/- Regarding further information on downloading the Tender Document and related issues, contact Deputy Secretary, Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga during office hours on mobile no. 9480861001 and obtain the information.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/753/2024-25 **Sd/- Deputy Secretary, Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru, Pincode-560001.

DEMAND NOTICE FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)]
By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 as amended

RC/256/2024 **Date: 15.10.2024**

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA
Versus
SMT. MANDYAM KOPE MAYURA

In the Matter of:
(CH-1) Central Bank of India, Seshadri Road Branch. Sesshadri Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka. ...Applicant Bank/Certificate Holder
Versus
To,
(CD-1) Smt Mandyam Kope Mayur W/o Shanthkumar D. No.727A, 2nd Main Road, 3rd Cross. E Block, 2nd Stage Rajajinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka -560010.
(CD-2) M/s Prabhavathi Builders and Developers Pvt Ltd., having its Office at No.80, 2nd Floor. 1st Cross 2nd Main, Vysya Bank , Gruha Nirmana Sahakara Sangha Layout, Near Reliance Fresh, BTM 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560076. Rep.by its Managing Director Mr.B.E.Praaveen Kumar .....Defendants/Certificate Debtors

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT1) in **OA/1223/2017** an amount of **Rs.4560566 (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Sixty Thousands Five Hundred Sixty Six Only)** along with cost and future interest there on @8%p.a. Simple Interest [subject to the limit of liability of the 2nd defendant to the consolidated sum of **Rs.38,85,000/-(Rupees Thirty Eight Lakh Eighty Five Thousand only)** w.e.f. **21/11/2017** till realization and costs of **Rs.80200 (Rupees Eighty Thousands Two Hundred Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/Fully/Limited).

CD Name	Int Type/Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Liability Type	RC Amount
(CD-1) SMT Mandyam Kope Mayur	Simple Interest	8% p.a.	21/11/2017	26/07/2023	Jointly and Severally	4560566
(CD-2) M/s Prabhavathi Builders and Developers Pvt Ltd. Rep By Its Managing Director Mr.B.E.Praaveen Kumar	Simple Interest	8% p.a.	21/11/2017	26/07/2023	Jointly and Severally	[subject to the limit of liability of the 2nd defendant to the consolidated sum of Rs. 38.85,000/-]

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of debts & Bankruptcy act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 12/11/2024 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **15.10.2024.**

(P.H.HEMANTH KUMAR,IRS)
Recovery Officer-II

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App Store

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified that I **Mrs. S. Pusha Nair,** during my transit, on 10.03.2023 at Bengaluru, have lost Original Registered General Power of Attorney dt.20.03.2013, Document No.HLS-4-00601-2012-13, Stored in CD No. HLSD70, Dt.21.03.2013, Registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Halasuru, Bangalore and Will dt.20.01.2001, pertaining to Residential Property bearing Municipal No.1066/A, PID No.64-124-08, 27th Main Road, 9th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru as such anyone find or/and in possession of the aforesaid documents shall contact the below mentioned address immediately & shall handover the same.

Contact Details
Mrs. S. Pushpa Nair
No.1066/A, 27th Main Road
39th Cross, Jayanagar 9th Block,
Bengaluru-560069 Mob: 9964577677

aavin J8, THE NILGIRIS DISTRICT COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LTD.,
P.B.No.69, Coonoor Road, Udhagamandalam - 643 001.
Phone : 0423 - 2444019 e-mail : aavinooty@gmail.com GSTIN : 33AAAAT2665F1ZP

TENDER NOTICE - (e-submission) (Only through e-Procurement Portal at http://tntenders.gov.in

TWO PART Tenders are invited by way of e-submission through e-procurement Portal only from Private vehicle owners / contractors for the following work. 1. Milk Collection route - 26 Nos. 2. Milk Distribution route - 11 Nos. The period of tender is three years from **16.05.2025** to **15.05.2028** the date of award of work order.

1.	Tender document availability	The tender documents can be downloaded from website e-Procurement Portal **(http://tntenders.gov.in) upto 05.05.2025, 6.00 pm.**
2.	e-submission closing date & time	**07.05.2025 upto 10.00 am.**
3.	Pre Bid Meeting	The Nilgiris District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited Udhagamandalam-643001 on **08.04.2025, 11.00 am.**
4	Bid-opening Date, Time & address	Part-I Technical Bid **07.05.2025 at 11.30 am**
		Part-II Commercial Bid After scrutinization of Technical bids, Information through **http://tntenders.gov.in**
		J8 The Nilgiris District Cooperative Milk Producers' union limited, Udhagamandalam - 643001.
5.	The tenderers should submit their bids only through e-Procurement Portal **http://tntenders.gov.in.** All other details can be seen in the tender documents. Corrigendum / Addendum to this publication, if any would appear only on the above said website. If any modification and re-tenders in this regard it will be communicated through above website only.	
6.	The decision of General Manager, NDCMPU Ltd., The Nilgiris shall be final conclusive and binding on all matters relating to this tender.	

DIPR/ 1231 /TENDER/2025 **JOINT DIRECTOR / GENERAL MANAGER, NDCMPU LTD.,**

IN THE COURT OF THE X ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU
P & SC.No. 153/2025

BETWEEN: 1. Smt. Leela Devi Kotari, D/o late Mithalal Jain, aged about 54 years, **2. Sri. Manohar Lal Jain,** S/o late Mithalal Jain, aged about 53 years, R/at No.8, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, Kalyan Nagar, Near Old Church, Moodalapalya, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru- 560072. **3. Sri. Ramesh Kumar Jain,** S/o late Mithalal Jain, aged about 50 years, **4. Smt. Pooja Jain,** W/o late Kailashlal Jain, aged about 35 years, **5. Smt. Rekha,** D/o late Mithalal Jain, aged about 44 years, All are R/at No.106, C/o Vicky Jain, Gangamma Temple Main Road, Ashoknagar, BSK 1st Stage, Bengaluru- 560058 **...Petitioners**
-V/s-
AND: Nil ... Respondent

Whereas the petitioners have filed a petition under Sec.372 of Indian Succession Act, 1925 for grant of Succession certificate in respect of the amount mentioned in the schedule amount of late Sohan Bai who died on 31-03-2011 in favour of petitioners.

The court has fixed date on **24-04-2025** for hearing in the above petition, interested persons may enter appearance on that day.

SCHEDULE

The Amount due by Janatha Seva Co-operative Bank Ltd., No.190, Krishna Complex, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Bangalore-72. in respect of deceased Account to Sri. Sohan Baj vide Account No.JMB/SBA/0004259 amounting to Rs. 21,07,746/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and forty Six only).

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 26-03-2025

By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, AT BANGALORE

Case No : O.A. No.1375/2024
Summons under sub-section(4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub - Rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules,1993

Between : State Bank of India, RACPC, Bangalore **...Applicant**
And:
Sri Pritesh Bari & ANR**...Respondent**

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993.

To: 2. M/s. GVG Infrastructure Private Limited, Builder and Developer, Office at : No. 589, 3rd Floor, 'C' Block ,AECS Layout, Bangalore - 560 037. **...Defendant No. 2**

Whereas, this Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum **Amount of debt in Rs. 37,43,654.00** (Rupees Thirty Seven Lakhs Forty Three thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Four Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs. Defendant No. 2 is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **13.06.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this the 6th day of March 2025.

By order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client **Mr. MANOJ JOHN** s/o. Ouseph john Aged about 53 years Residing at No. A-13-101, 1st Floor, Provident Harmony, Sri Balajikrupa Layout, Chokkanahalli R.K. Hegadenagar, Bangalore-560077 intends to purchase the property described in the schedule herein from Smt. K.V. Shanthakumari . W/o. B.Nagaraj residing at No.21,2md Cross Road, MCHS Layout, Shivaramakarathnagar Bangalore-560077. She is the absolute owner of the same.

Any person or persons having objections to the above transactions are required forward same to the under signed along with the relevant materials. within 10 days today in the absence of any objections within the above said period it shall be deemed that there are no objections or that they have been waived and the sale deed will be executed in favor of our client without any further reference in this regard.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property bearing Residential Site No.27, PID.No.5228030209, formed in Sy No.39/4, of Sampigehalli Village, situated at 3rd Block, Arkavathi Layout, Bangalore, measuring East to West:09.00 Mtrs and North to South: 12.00 Mtrs totally measuring 108.00 Square Mtr ., and bounded on the :- East by : Site No.28, West by : Site No.26, North by : Private Property, South by : Road.

P.N. RAMAKRISHNAPPA MA ., LL.B.
M. HEMAVATHI MA ., LL.B.
H.R.V. ASSOCIATES, ADVOCATES
No. 99, B.G.S. Layout, Jakkur,
Amruthahalli Main Road, Bangalore-560 064.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that our clients **Mr. B.J. MANU,** aged about 41 years, s/o Late S. Jagannath Setty & **Mr. B.J. VIKRAM,** aged about 39 years, s/o Late S. Jagannath Setty, both are residing at No. 10 (old No.607), 4th Cross road, BSK 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Bangalore-560050 intend to purchase the schedule property from **Sri. Padam Raj Mehta,** s/o. Late Ugam Raj Mehta, aged about 72 years & **Smt. Chandra Prabha Mehta,** w/o. Sri. Padam Raj Mehta, aged about 69 years both are residing at No.1. 'Poonam, 3rd Cross, Mount Joy Extension, Near HP Petrol Bunk, Hanumanthnagar, Gavipuram Extension, Bangalore 560019. Any person(s) having any claim, right, title, interest, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, lien, lease, tenancy, or any other objection with respect to the schedule property is hereby called upon to make such claims known in writing, along with supporting documents, to the undersigned within **SEVEN (07) days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the stipulated period, it shall be deemed that there are no claims or encumbrances on the said property, and the transaction shall proceed accordingly.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property **bearing No. 10 (Old No. 607), having E-Khata No. 7750583772** (Old PID No. 53-167-10), situated at 4th Cross, Banashankari 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Ward No. 164 (Old Ward No. 53), Srinagar, Bangalore – 560050, measuring East-West: 40 feet and North-South: 60.6 feet, **totalling 2,420 square feet, along with a built-up area of 2,299.998 square feet** and comprises a RCC roofing residential building consists of a ground floor measuring 12 squares, a first floor measuring 11.2 squares, and a garage which are constructed with brick and cement, the jungle wood door and having marble flooring and bounded on: East by: Property No. 608, West by :Property No. 606, North by: Road, South by: Property No. 624.

Sd/- **D. MANJUNATH,** Advocate,
MM LAW CHAMBERS,
No. 15/18, 1st Floor, 12th 'A' Cross,
4th Main, Sampangiramanagar,
Bangalore 560027 Mobile: 9448089575
e-mail:advmanjunath71@gmail.com

BEFORE THE ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL COMPRISING OF MR. ANUJ DESAI LEARNED SOLE ARBITRATOR

BAJAJ CONSUMER CARE LTD. ... Claimant
VERSUS
WOOVLY INDIA PVT. LTD. ... Respondent

WHEREAS the present Arbitral Tribunal has been constituted to adjudicate the disputes arising out of the Vendor Agreement dated 06.10.2022 between the Claimant and Respondent. Claimant abovenamed has instituted the captioned Arbitral proceedings against the Respondent for reliefs as set out in detail in the Statement of Claim dated 05.02.2025. Pursuant to Minutes of Meeting dated 17.02.2025 and email dated 28.03.2025 circulated by the Ld. Sole Arbitrator, the Respondent is hereby given 10 days' time and is summoned to remain present before the Ld. Arbitral Tribunal by themselves or by their duly appointed Advocates on 11.04.2025 at 3:15 pm along with Vakalatnama or Board Resolution in favour of the said appearing individual; in default whereof, the Ld. Arbitral Tribunal shall proceed in the Arbitration proceedings in their absence and Claimant will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such dated of 11.04.2025 to claim an ex-parte Award for a sum of Rs. 15,90,596/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Ninety Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety-Six Only) along with interest at the rate of 12% per annum from the date of default till realization or at such rate as this Ld. Tribunal may determine, till payment and/or realization and costs of the Arbitration proceedings.

This notice has been issued pursuant to Minutes of Meeting dated 17.02.2025 passed by the Ld. Arbitral Tribunal. The captioned Arbitral hearing is now scheduled be held on 11.04.2025 at 3:15 pm.

You may attend the next date of the Arbitral hearing by way of video conference. Link of the video conference has been shared by way of email.

You may contact the undersigned for any other information relating to the scheduled hearing on 11.04.2025 at 3:15 pm.

King, Stubb & Kasiva (Advocates & Attorneys)
Advocates for the Plaintiff,
Address: 61, 6th Floor, Atlanta Building, Jamnalal Bajaj Road,
Nariman Point, Mumbai- 400 021
Email: zeeshan@ksandk.com; sanidhya@ksandk.com Mobile: 8105241503

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
KRISHI BHAVAN - HUDSON CIRCE
BANGALORE - 560001.

Notice of Demand to Defendants

(See Rule 2 of the Second Schedulf of Income Tax Act 1961 and Section 25 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks under Financial Institution Act 1993)

To,
1. Sri G.R. Jagadish
2. Smt. S. Pushpalatha W/o. Sri G.R. Jagadish, both residing at No. 2746, 12th Main Road, 'E' Block, Subramanya Nagar, Bangalore-21.

Please take notice that Certificate No. DCP No. 2382 Dated 30.03.2000 has been forwarded by the presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore in OA 503/1999.

Between :
Central Bank of India, Malleswaram Branch, Bangaore. **....Applicant**
AND
Sri G. R. Jagadish & Others .... Defendants

for the recovery of an amount of **Rs. 11,78,156.83** details of which are given hereunder. You are hereby required to pay the amount aforesaid within 15 days from the date of service of this notice of Demand Draft in favour of the undersigned.

2. You are informed that in case of default steps would be taken to reaise the amount by one or more of the following most namely :-
(a) Attachment and sale of the movab;e or immovable properties of defendants.
(b) Arrest of the defendants and detension in prison.
(c) By appointing a receiver for the management of the movable or immovable properties of Defendants.
3. In addition to the amount aforesaid you wil also be liable for :
(a) Such interest as is paybes as per decree, and al costs incurred to realise the debt.

Details of Amount Mentioned in the Recovery Certificate :

Sl. No.	Item	Amount (in Rupees)
1.	Amount Determined	3,73,175.49
2a.	Interest Awared by Civil Court @ 17.50% p.a. from 16/12/89 to 6/6/96	4,22,623.34
2b.	Interest @ 17.50% p.a. on Rs. 373175.49 from 7/6/96 to 30/3/2000	3,43,996
3.	Cost Awarded by Civil Court	37,362
4.	Cost Awarded by DRT	1,000
5.	Cost	1,000
	TOTAL	**11,79,156.83**

NB : Attention is invited to Rue 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act., 1961 read with recovery of Debts due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act 1993 which is reproduce below :

"16 (1) Where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative in interest shal not be competent to mortage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belongs to him except with the permission or the Debt Recovery Officer, nor shall any Civil Court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

(2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or deivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shal be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment."

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribuna on this day.

(K. Narayana)
Recovery Officer
Debts Recovery Tribuna, Bangaore-560001.

DOCUMENTS LOST

We, **Sri. Govind Ganesh,** son of Sri, V. Ganesh alias Varadaraja Iyer Ganesh, aged about 38 years and **Smt. Michelle Washington,** daughter of Sri. Noel Washington and wife of Sri. Govind Ganesh, aged about 36 years, both the parties are presently residing at No. 562, Block 5, situated at Jal Vayu Towers, Phase II, Beniganahalli, Bangalore-560038, do hereby inform to the general public that we are the absolute owners for the residential property bearing Apartment no. 505, in Fourth Floor in "VARS TRADITIONS" situated at 2nd Main Road, Pai Layout, Bangalore in residentially converted property bearing CMC no. 148, Earlier Plots nos. 481 to 493, measuring 16,185 square feet, comprised in Survey nos. 66 and 67 of Benniganahalli Dhakle, Nagavarapalya Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, we having acquired the same via Sale Deed dated 25.10.2017 from Mr. Cyril Rudolph Wright, registered as document no. SHV-1-04257-2017-18. We submit that when we were shifting our house in Benniganahalli Dhakle, Nagavarapalya Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk on 10.12.2024, the title deed of the apartment i.e., sale deed dated 24.02.2001, executed by Mr. A. Prabhakar Reddy and others in favour of Mr. Cyril Rudolph Wright, s/o. Mr. Eslin Stafford Wright, registered as document no. 11323/2000-01, Book-I, Vol. no. 1898, Page no. 172-182, before Krishnarajapuram Sub- registrar office, is lost and could not be found. Inspite of our best efforts, we could not find the same and in this regard we filed a complaint in the jurisdiction police station bearing lost report no. 1512226/2025 dated 09.03.2025.

If anybody finds the above said documents or is in possession, please handover the same to the above said address or contact me on **97397 70327.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client Mrs. Shoba Jayram W/o B.Jay Jayram, Aged about 69 years, residing at No. 709, 9th A Main, Indiranagar 11 Stage, Bengaluru-560 038, hereby inform the general public that the General Power of Attorney dated 13.2.2004, executed by our client in favour of Mr. J. Boopesh Reddy S/o late Jayarama Reddy , Aged about 52 years and Mr. J. Vijay Reddy, S/o late Jayarama Reddy, Both are residing at No. 93/3, 29th Main, B.T.M.Layout, Bengaluru-560 076, in respect of residential siyes bearing No. 120, 119 117, 116, 113, 112,109, 105, 104 and 103 carved out of land in Sy No. 96/1 and Sy No. 89/3 of the Hoodi Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, has been terminated / cancelled / revoked and made void as per the legal notice dated 11.3.2025 . Nothing herein shall effect any action taken by our client prior to after the notice of revocation of General Power of Attorney. The notice of this revocation of General Power of Attorney dated 11.3.2025 shall be binding on every person or entity has been given for the said purpose. Our client shall not be responsible for any acts done on the basis of the said General Power of Attorney dated 13.02.2004 and is not binding on our client. The general public are cautioned not to do any transactions on the basis of the said General Power of Attorney dated 13.02.2004 and any acts are done on behalf of our client on the bais of the said General Power of Attorney, our client is not liable and any transaction made is at their own risk and consequences.

P.B.AJIT & R.K.THONTARSHAYA
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS
M/S.B.M.ASSOCIATES
No. 7/1, 3rd Floor, G.J.Complex,
100 Feet Road, Indiranagar 1st Stage,
Bengaluru-560 038.

IN THE COURT OF THE SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE, BERHAMPUR, GANJAM
NOTICE
(U/S 372 of Indian Succession Act.)
Intestate Case No.-1/2025

Smt. Ajita Behera & 2 others ... Petitioners
Versus
Indian Audits & Accounts Department, Karnataka Region, Bangalore and State of Odisha .... Opposite Parties

Take notice that the above named petitioners namely (1) Smt. Ajita Behera, W/o Late Bikash Kumar Behera, (2) Biswajit Kumar, S/o late Bikash Kumar Behera, (3) Miss. Bishakha, D/o Late Bikash Kumar Behera have instituted the Intestate case No-1 of 2025 praying to grant of Succession Certificate in their favour to obtain the Gratuity, all terminal & death benefits of late Ranjeeta Behera @ Ranjeeta Behra.

The aforesaid Ranjeeta Behera @ Ranjeeta Behra was working as Senior Audit Officer in the office of the Principal Accountant General (Audit-1), Karnataka, Bangaluru and she died unmarried on 16-07-2024 at Bangaluru.

If anybody has any objections or claim in this connection may appear in this case in person or by a pleader **on 30-04-2025 at 10.30 A. M** for filing of objections, if any, failing which the aforesaid case will be proceeded as per law.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on the day of **26-03-2025.**

Senior Civil Judge
Berhampur, Ganjam

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, AT BANGALORE

Case No : O.A. No.655/2024
Summons under sub-section(4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub - Rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules,1993

Between : State Bank of India, RACPC- Shankarpuram, Bangalore **...Applicant**
And:
Sri Soumaya Ranjan Maharana, and Ors ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993.

To: 1. Mr. Soumaya Ranjan Maharana, S/o. Mr. Sudarshan Maharana, R/a. Flat No. B202, Magnolia Block Brigade Millenium Apartment, J. P. Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore - 560 078.
Also at : Iosys Software India Pvt Ltd., , No. 738, Sumo Saphire, 4th Floor, 15th Cross, K. R. Layout, 6th Phase, J. P. Nagar, Bangalore - 575 078. ...**Defendant No. 1**
2. Mrs. Sunitha Maharana, Wo. Mr. Soumaya Ranjan Maharana R/a. Flat No. B202, Magnolia Block Bridge, Millenium Apartment, J. P. Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore - 560 078.
Also at : Iosys Software India Pvt Ltd., , No. 738, Sumo Saphire, 4th Floor, 15th Cross, K. R. Layout, 6th Phase, J. P. Nagar, Bangalore - 575 078. ...**Defendant No. 2**

Whereas, this Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum **Amount of debt in Rs. 1,51,84,605/-** (Rupees One Crore Fifty One Lakhs Eighty Four thousand Six Hundred and Five Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs. Defendant No. 1 and 2 is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **20.05.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this the 6th day of March 2025.

By order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

O. A. No. 990/ 2022

BETWEEN : CANARA BANK, DVG Road Branch, Bangalore-560004 ...Applicant
AND : Sri. Jagadish L.R. & Ors ...Defendants

Summons issued under Rule 23(Viii) of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1993

To: Defendant 1, 2, 4 & 5
1. Mr. Jagadish L.R., Aged about 43 years, S/o Sri. Range Gowda, R/at MP 133/4, New Address: 4th Cross, Hanumanthappa Building, Aishwarya Layout, Rajanakunte, Bangalore-560064.
Office Address: C.K. Enterprises, No.19/2, Honnena Halli, Opp: IOCL, Doddaballapura Main Road, Bangalore-560064.
2. Smt. Shashikala J., Aged Major, W/o Mr. Jagadish L.R., R/at House No.355, Back of Surodaya School, Rajanakunte, Bangalore-560064.
4. M/s Pushpam Realty, A Partnership Firm, Having its place of office/business at: No. 191, 1st Cross, 1st Block, Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bangalore-560011. representing its Managing Partner: Mrs. Veena R.S.
5. Karnataka Bank Ltd, Banashankari II Stage Branch, No. 979, 13th Cross, 19th Main, Banashankari II Stage, Bangalore-560070. Represented by its Branch Manager

Whereas, this Applicant has instituted as application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 57,18,108.19/- (Rupees Fifty Seven Lakhs Eighteen Thousand One Hundred and Eight and Paise Nineteen Only)** together with current & future interest and other reliefs.

The above Defendant(s) is/are therefore, hereby directed to appear to before the Tribunal in person or through and advocate or through authorized agent, in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date publication on **21.07.2025 at 10.30 A.M.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not granted.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before the proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 12.03.2025.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL,
Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, AT BANGALORE

Case No : O.A. No.1372/2024
Summons under sub-section(4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub - Rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules,1993

Between : State Bank of India, RACPC- Shankarpuram, Bangalore **...Applicant**
And:
Sri Sourab Aditya & Ors ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993.

To: 1. Mr. Sourab Aditya S/o. S. L. Aditya No. 112A Wing Srinivasa Enclave, G. M. Palya, Near Nandini Bakery, Bangalore - 560 075.
ALSO AT : Aditya Nivas, Tikrapara Katakwar Galf near Nama Bhanjar Talab, Bilashpur Chhattisgarh PIN - 495001.
Also at : Cambridge Tech, Sagar Complex, No. 6/1, Old Sy. No. 39/2, 2nd Floor, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560 029.
...Defendant No. 1
M/s. Saibya Structures PVR Ltd., # 384, Ground Floor, 7th Sector, 9th Main, HSR Layout, Bangalore - 560 102, Represented by its Managing Director Sri Siddarth Kumar Gupta. **...Defendant No. 2**

Whereas, this Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum **Amount of debt in Rs. 26,42,508/-** (Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Forty Two thousand Five Hundred and Eight Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs. Defendant No. 1 and 3 is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **13.06.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this the 6th day of March 2025.

By order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XLII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSEION JUDGE, AT BENGALURU (CCH No.43)
P & SC. No. 80/2025

BETWEEN: 1. SRI. N.R. RAVINDRANATH, S/o Late. N.L. Reddeppa Setty, aged about 69 years, **2. SRI. N.R. PRATHAM,** S/o Sri. N.R. Ravindranath, aged about 35 years, Both the Petitioner No.1 & 2 are R/at No.397/15, 9th Cross, Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bengaluru South, Jayanagar III Block, Bengaluru-560 011. ... **PETITIONER**

AND: 1. SMT. LEELAVATHI .N.R, W/o Late. Ram Manohar .N.R, aged about 74 years, R/at No.1459, 17th Cross, 14th Main, Kumara Swamy Layout, 1st Stage, J.P.Nagar, Bengaluru-560 078. **2. SMT. KAVITHA,** W/o Sri. Vinay, D/o Late. Ram Manohar. N.R, aged about 45 years, R/at No. 1459, Ground Floor, 17th Cross, 14th Main, Kumaraswamy Layout, 1st Stage, J.P. Nagar, Bengaluru-560078. **3. SMT. VINUTHA,** W/o Sri. Narayana Kulkarni, D/o Late. Ram Manohar .N.R, aged about 40 years, R/at No. 1459, First Floor, 17th Cross, 14th Main, Kumaraswamy Layout, 1st Stage, J.P. Nagar, Bengaluru-560078. **4. SMT. T. KRSIHNAVENI @ KRISHNAKUMARI,** D/o Late. N.L. Reddappa Setty, W/o Late. Ramakrishnaiah. T, aged about 74 years, R/at No.52, 2nd Main Road, 1,2nd Cross, Shanimahathma Temple, Kaverinagar, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560 085. **5. SRI. N.R. HARIDRANATH,** S/o Late. N.L. Reddeppa Setty, aged about 71 years, R/at No.239, 37th 'A' Cross, 11th Main, 4th T Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560 041. **6. SMT. BHARATHI DEVI,** D/o Late. N.L. Reddeppa Setty, W/o Sri. Lakshmi Narasimha Murthy, aged about 71 years, R/at No.288/A, 5th Cross, 5th Block, BSK 3rd Stage, 3rd Phase, Bengaluru-560 085. **7. SMT. REKHA RAJ VEMALA @ UMA MAHESHWARI,** D/o Late. N.L. Reddeppa Setty, W/o Sri. Rajendranath Vemala, aged about 65 years, R/at No.28, "Ashirwad", 33rd Main, 5th B Block, Bhavani Layout, Banagirinagar, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560 085. ... **RESPONDENTS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the above named Petitioners have made a petition to the Hon'ble XLII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, at Bengaluru (CCH-43) under Section 276 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, praying to grant Probate for the Registered WILL dated 12.08.2015 executed by Late. Reddeppa Setty in favor of the Petitioners, who passed away on 01/09/2024

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear in this court in person (or) by a Pleader duly instructed on the **29/04/2025** at **11 'o' clock** in forenoon to show cause against the petition failing wherein, the matter will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the residential house premises bearing No.397/15, having BBMP Khatha bearing No.15, having PID No.50-60-15 measuring East to West 30 Feet, and North to South 60 Feet, in total 1800 Sq feet, and consisting of GROUND and FIRST FLOOR of building each have 1200 Square Feet, situated at 9th Cross, 2nd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560 011 and bounded as follows: **East by:** Property bearing No.398, Jayanagar Co-Opertative Housing Society, **West by:** Property belongs to Veena Musicals, **North by:** 9th Cross Road, **South by:** Property bearing No.382, belonging to S. Abdul Karim

Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this 28/03/2025

By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru

B.C. CHETHAN
M/s. LEXFIRM
Advocates & Solicitors
No.201, 2nd Floor, "Shankalp Business Bay",
Next to Angala Parameshwari Temple,
Binny Mill Road, Bengaluru-560 023.

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
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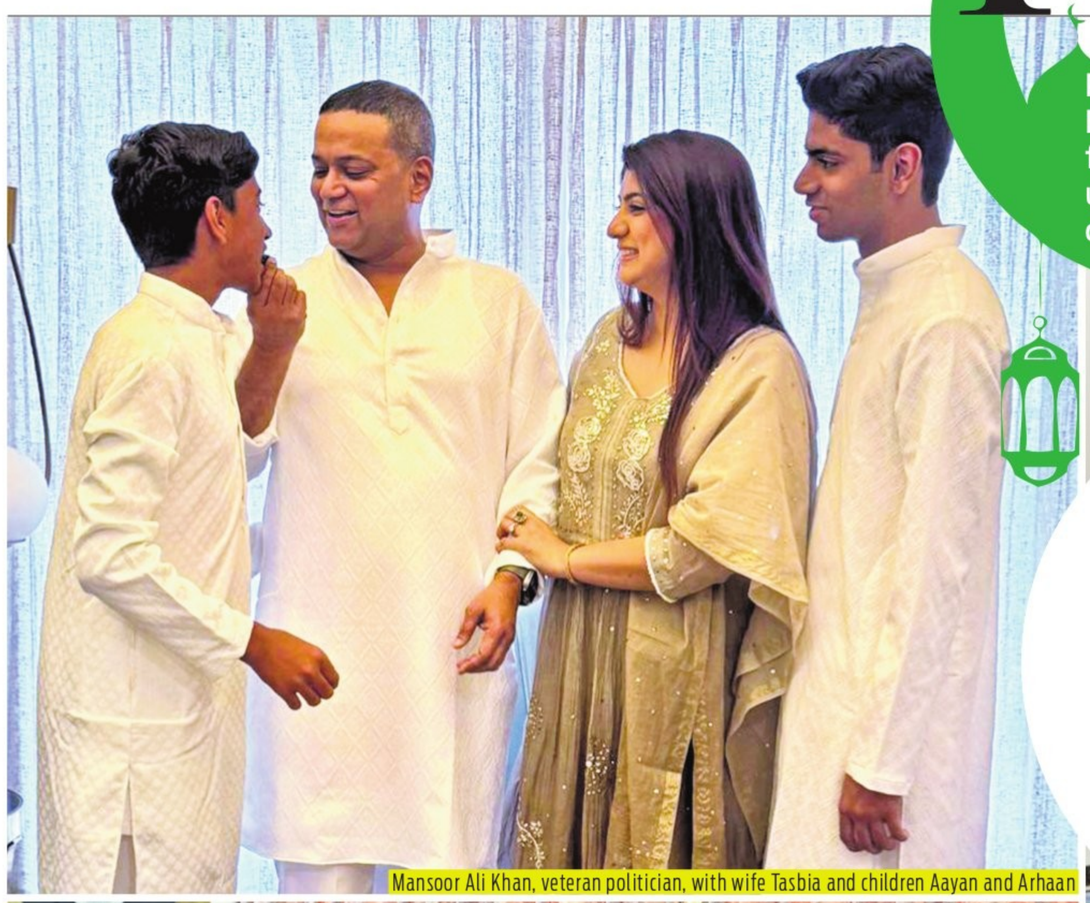
01.04.2025
TUESDAY

CE'S GUIDE TO HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY PG 2

Prominent Bengalureans from diverse fields usher in the festive cheer of Eid

UNDER THE CRESCENT MOON



Mansoor Ali Khan, veteran politician, with wife Tasbia and children Aayan and Arhaan

Rida Tharana, video creator, with her siblings Huda Thamanna and Mohammed Zayn Daniel

Younus Ahmed, digital creator

Syed Kirmani, former celebrated India cricketer, part of the 1983 World Cup-winning squad, with daughter Nishath, grandsons Hamza and Hyder Ali, wife Habiba, brother-in-law Mir Shandar Hussain, and granddaughter Hiba Sakina Ali

PICS: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

CITY READ

Free concert to honour the memory of Pandit Gourang Kodical

Young classical singer **Nishant Panicker** will be performing at a memorial concert of Pandit Gourang Kodical which will be held on April 6 at 6pm at Canara Union, Malleswaram, where visitors can join in free of charge. He will be supported by Krishnendra Samarth, Shashibhushan Gurjar, and Surya Upadhya with vocals and instruments on stage. Pandit Gourang Kodical was a distinguished tabla maestro renowned for his profound contributions to Hindustani classical music. His contributions were recognised with accolades, including the Karnataka Kalashree title from the Karnataka Sangeet Nritya Academy, and the Rajyotsava award. For more details, call 80233 42625.

Institute to host marathon to combat classroom hunger

IIIT-Bangalore, Electronic City, in partnership with Akshaya Patra Foundation, will be hosting Miles4Meals 2025, comprising a 10K and a 5K marathon, on April 6 at their premises to fight classroom hunger. With every stride, participants will contribute to providing nutritious mid-day meals for underprivileged children, ensuring they receive the nourishment they need to learn and thrive. The previous edition of the event funded meals for 5,500 children, due to the support of 200+ runners, 50+ volunteers, and three sponsors.

Sri Lakshmi Venkateshwara Prasanna
IGNITED MINDS
Educational Academy
PUC Subjects Offered
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• Computer Science • Chemistry
• Biology • Languages
Students to be guided with laboratory experiments
9353597030/9380806057
#72, 3rd Main, 9th Cross, Sri Hari Layout, Jnanajyothinagar, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore - 56. (Near Saroja Memorial School)

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BADMINTON ACADEMY
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Academy Achievements
01 Summer Camp Batch 01 Apr to 31st May
10:00 Am to 01:00 Pm (Mon-Fri)
Scientifically Designed Coaching
Evaluation of current proficiency levels
Scientific warmup, fitness and agility development Fun games + Weekends Included
Starts From: ₹1500/- Only
7760971583 / 7899529345
Venue: 10th Cross, Jnanajyothinagar, Ullal Main Road Bengaluru.

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#5, 5th Main, 5th Cross, N.R.Colony, Basavanagudi, Bangalore -19.

Happy Ugadi
May the fragrance of the flowers, the sweetness of the mangoes, and the love of your family fill your life with joy.
Rakshith PS

ಡಾ.ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ ಸ್ವಾಮೀಜಿ
ಅವರಿಗೆ 118ನೇ ವರ್ಷದ
ಹುಟ್ಟುಹಬ್ಬದ
ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು
ROOPA DODDAPPAYYA
51, 7th A Cross, Ganesh Nagar, Bangalore - 560097 - +91 91489 19800

ಡಾ.ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ ಸ್ವಾಮೀಜಿ
ಅವರಿಗೆ 118ನೇ ವರ್ಷದ
ಹುಟ್ಟುಹಬ್ಬದ
ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು
Thimma Reddy
#51/1, 7th A Cross, Ganesh Nagar, Bangalore - 560097 - +91 9632063556

ಡಾ.ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ ಸ್ವಾಮೀಜಿ
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ಹುಟ್ಟುಹಬ್ಬದ
ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು
Jayathirtha. S. G

XPRESS FOCUS

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK EMPOWERS HIGHER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Standard Chartered Bank (SCB), in partnership with Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, has transformed higher education opportunities for 3,500 students with disabilities across 10 states. Through its sustained commitment, SCB has played a pivotal role in eliminating barriers, fostering accessibility, and driving economic empowerment.

This initiative has supported 1,350 visually impaired students (39%) and 1,860 girls with disabilities (53%), ensuring their enrollment, retention, and academic success across 725 colleges and 95 universities. SCB's funding has facilitated digital labs, assistive technologies, accessible infrastructure, and competitive exam coaching, paving the way for students to pursue PhDs, MBBS, MBA, and engineering degrees.

At the SCB-Higher Education Impact Conclave hosted by Samarthanam, a white paper detailing the organisation's achievements and future requirements in higher education for students with disabilities was presented to Dr. M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka.

Acknowledging Samarthanam's impact, Dr. Sudhakar assured his support and promised to connect the initiative with key bureaucrats to explore further opportunities, including the allotment of land to establish an inclusive global university and sports facilities for persons with disabilities.

Karuna Bhatia, Head – Sustainability, SCB & GBS India, stated:"At Standard Chartered, we believe education transforms lives. Our collaboration with Samarthanam ensures that students with disabilities have the resources and opportunities to excel. Together, we are breaking barriers and building an inclusive future."

BNMIT'S KALA BHAGEERATHI CULTURAL TEAM TRIUMPHS AT VTU YOUTH FESTIVAL 2025

BN.M. Institute of Technology (BNMIT) recently celebrated a remarkable achievement of its Kala Bhageerathi Cultural Team, which triumphed at the State Level VTU Youth Festival 2025. The event held at Global Academy of Technology, Bengaluru, saw BNMIT's talented cultural team compete against over 100 colleges from across the state under Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU).

Clinching the prestigious Overall Championship Trophy, the team secured a medal haul with 4 Gold, 4 Silver, and 2 Bronze medals, solidifying their place as one of the top performers at the event.

The Chairman, Director, Additional Director, Dean, Deputy Director, Principal, staff, and students of BNMIT extended their heartfelt congratulations to the coaches, mentors, accompanying artists, and the dedicated boys and girls of the Kala Bhageerathi Cultural Team.

The event was attended by - Vijay Raghavendra, Actor, Aishwarya Hegde Secretary, Global Academy Of Technology, Narayana Rao R. Maanay, Secretary BNMIT, Dr. B E Rangaswamy, Registrar Evaluation, VTU, Dr. S.Y. Kulkarni, Additional Director and Principal of the college BNMIT, Prof. T.J. Ramamurthy, Director of the college BNMIT, Dr. G.N. Krishnamurthy, Deputy Director of the college BNMIT, Eeshwar N. Maanay, Dean BNMIT, Dr. H B Balakrishna Balubit, Principal Global Academy of Technology and others were present.

SJBIT HOSTS SUCCESSFUL 14TH BLOOD DONATION CAMP, COLLECTS 310 UNITS

SJB Institute of Technology successfully organised its 14th Blood donation camp recently, a collaborative effort between the National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of SJBIT, The Indian Red Cross Society, BGS Global Institute of Medical Sciences, and The Rotary Club of South Bangalore.

The camp was inaugurated by Dr. Prakashnatha Swamiji, Managing Director of BGS and SJB Group of Institutions. In his address, Swamiji emphasised the significance of blood donation in saving lives.

The event was graced by the presence of Dr. Puttaraju, Academic Director of BGS and SJB Group of Institutions, Dr. K.V. Mahendra Prashanth, Principal,

SJBIT and Dr. B.H. Doreswamy, NSS Coordinator, SJBIT. The camp successfully collected 310 units of blood, which will be instrumental in addressing the medical needs of numerous patients.

BOOK NOOK

Magnetic
by Rochelle Fox

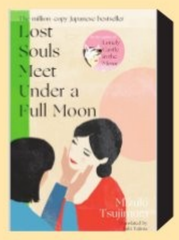
Do you feel stuck and unable to manifest your goals? Do you wish for a fuller, more meaningful existence? Rochelle Fox's new book, *Magnetic*, helps you discover the power of the subconscious mind and reprogramme it for success.

Water Moon
by Samantha Sotto Yambao

Hana, a young girl in Japan, wakes up one morning to find her father missing and their magical pawnshop ransacked. She must embark on an unforgettable adventure with an unknown, charming stranger to restore balance and find her father.

The Hunter
by Tana French

Crackling with tension and slow-burn suspense, *The Hunter* – a thrilling sequel to *The Searcher* – explores what we will do for our loved ones, what we will do for revenge, and what we sacrifice when the two collide.



Lost Souls Meet Under a Full Moon
by Mizuki Tsujimura

Is there anyone you wish to see? So asks Ayumi, a mysterious young man who arranges reunions with the deceased. But these meetings come with strict rules: the dead can refuse, they must meet under a full moon, and no one else can summon them.

DRAMATICAL EVENTS

Artistes perform *Shudra Tapasvi* by Kannada playwright Kuvempu at KGS Club in Cubbon Park on the occasion of Rangotsava | **NAGARAJA GADEKAL**

QUICKFIX

BEETROOT-CARROT DOSAE

INGREDIENTS

- **Dosae batter:** 1 cup
- **Beetroot (grated):** 1
- **Carrot (grated):** 1
- **Small onion (finely chopped):** 1
- **Egg (optional):** 1
- **Cheese (optional, as needed)**
- **Ghee/butter/oil (as needed)**
- **Salt (to taste)**
- **Pepper/chilli flakes (optional, to taste)**

METHOD

- In a bowl, mix the dosae batter with the grated beetroot, grated carrot, and chopped onion.
- If using an egg, beat it and add it to the batter mix. Stir well.
- Season with salt and pepper or chilli flakes as per taste.
- Heat a tawa or non-stick pan and lightly grease it with ghee, butter, or oil.
- Pour a ladleful of the batter onto the pan and spread it in a circular motion to form a thin dosae.
- If using cheese, sprinkle it on top, but do not flip the dosae after adding it, as the cheese may burn.
- Cook on low to medium heat until the dosae is crispy and golden at the edges.
- Serve hot with chutney or yoghurt.

Contributed by **Liya Rose George,** Kottayam

NOWSTREAMING

VIDUTHALAI: PART 2 (Tamil)

After being captured by the police, the rebellious Perumal Vaathiyaar comes clean about his past and his rise to power.

Cast: Vijay Sethupathi, Soori, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Bhavani Sre, Rajiv Menon

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

DEVA (Hindi)

A skilled but defiant police officer investigates a major case. The officer discovers layers of lies and betrayal during the investigation.

Cast: Shahid Kapoor, Pooja Hegde, Pavail Gulati

- **Watch on:** Netflix

FOREIGN

THE STUDIO (English, series)

Matt Remick is the newly appointed head of Continental Studios; desperate for celebrity approval, he and his executive team at the movie studio must juggle corporate demands with creative ambitions as they try to keep movies alive and relevant.

Cast: Seth Rogen, Catherine O'Hara, Kathryn Hahn

- **Watch on:** Apple TV+

SUBSCRIPTION

Netflix:	₹199/month
Prime Video:	₹299/month
JioHotstar:	₹899/year
Zee5:	₹699/year
Viki Rakuten:	₹299/month
Aha:	₹699/year
SonyLIV:	₹299/month

FITBIT

SITKARI PRANAYAMA
(HISSING BREATH)

This is a yoga breathing technique to cool down the body, calm the mind, and reduce manifestations of Pitta Dosha or the fire element in the body. This pranayama involves inhaling through the mouth, retaining the breath (optional), and exhaling through the nostrils. In this, inhalation is done with the tongue flat and slightly protruding (classical version). It is one of the eight yoga breathing techniques in the Hatha Yoga Pradipika, a classic yoga text.

STEPS

- Sit in a meditation posture. Close your eyes and do a few rounds of deep, even breathing.
- Rest your hands on the knees with a yoga mudra of your choice, which is optional.
- Keep the lips slightly apart, and allow the tongue to protrude a little (3/4 inch).
- Inhale through the mouth, allowing the air to go around the teeth and then into the windpipe.
- Your inhalation should be gentle and fill the lungs. When you inhale, a hissing sound will occur. The 'hissing' sound is natural. Close your lips after inhaling and swallow/gulp the air.
- Retain the breath for full benefits. Here, breath retention is optional but if you choose to do it, keep the tongue in its natural position or touch the soft palate with the tip of your tongue.
- Exhale through the nose and empty the lungs while keeping the mouth closed. Now, you have completed one round of Sitkari Pranayama. Start over to continue without a break.
- Sitkari breathing doesn't have any specific follow-up protocol.
- You may sit with closed eyes and breathe normally to conclude. Alternatively, you can lie in Corpse Pose for additional relaxation.

Note: Beginners should focus on inhalation and exhalation with a 1:1 ratio. Lengthen the exhalation to a 1:2 ratio before you proceed to add breath retention. Normally, 8-10 rounds are sufficient to obtain the benefits. In summers, do 15-20 rounds at dawn and dusk or as required.

BENEFITS

- Soothes the eyes, ears, and body.
- Can be beneficial for burning eyes, stomach pain, and mild fever.
- Helps to bring body balance after high-intensity exercise or yoga.
- Some studies show that it slows down brain waves and helps with relaxation.
- A few rounds before bed can calm the mind and relieve insomnia.
- Breathing technique decreases anger and agitation, making it ideal for students who suffer from anxiety and hypertension.
- Practise it to pacify Pitta Dosha – a constitutional imbalance as per the traditional health system of Ayurveda.
- Aids in hyperacidity and gastric problems, or health issues caused by Pitta Dosha.
- Creates a feeling of fullness, which can be equated to reducing hunger and thirst.
- Provides relief to dental problems, especially those pertaining to the gums.
- Great for the skin.
- Reduces pitta in the body, decreasing redness, inflammation, and other associated skin problems.
- It is more therapeutic than spiritual.
- Eases stress, reduces heart rate variability, and soothes the body.
- Many advocate its use after prolonged exposure to the sun, a fiery yoga session, hot flashes, or to tame a mild fever.

LIMITATIONS

- Avoid performing this while lying down or walking.
- If you are unable to sit cross-legged, do it while sitting on a chair.
- Don't practise this in the AC room or during winter season.
- Should be done on an empty stomach and in fresh air.
- People suffering from cough, cold, asthma, bronchitis, chronic constipation or gastric problems, BP, heart ailments, have sensitive teeth or gaps in teeth should avoid it.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Fun with Music

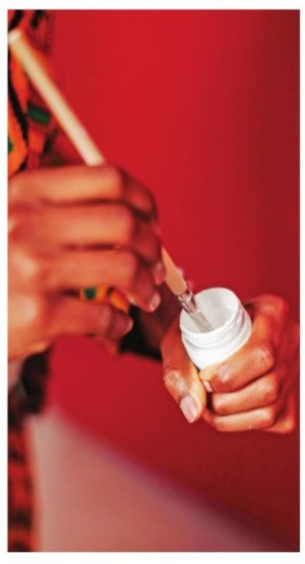
Bring your little ones along for a fun music camp where they can develop a deep connection with music through listening, exploring, and creating. From rhythm games to hands-on instrument experiences, sound healing, and expressive singing, this event promises to be a journey that can awaken their musical senses.

WHEN: April 1-4, 4pm
WHERE: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar
DETAILS: attagalatta.com

Poetic Evenings

Gather around for an event that brings you fresh verses from contemporary poets. Immerse yourself in the night that features **Sadhana Subramanian** and her poems narrating the struggles of everyday life, centring on women, the oppressed, the undemocratic, and the politics of living in a socially unjust world.

WHEN: April 1, 7.30pm
WHERE: Urban Solace, Ulsoor
CALL: 98450 13055



Colours of Serenity

Step into the serene world of Japanese Ink Sumi-e Painting with an immersive one-hour session which introduces you to the ancient art form of Sumi-e, rooted in Zen philosophy. Unleash your creativity as you master the beauty of simplicity through black ink brush strokes.

WHEN: April 1, 3pm
WHERE: Patron Of Fine Arts, Kodihalli
DETAILS: allevents.in

Goals to Reality

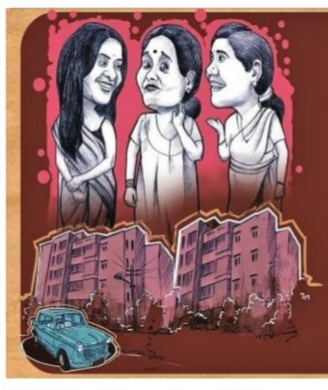
Attend this motivational talk curated to help you in setting the right goals for your personal and professional life. This event promises you with personalised guidance and unwavering support to achieve your goals.

WHEN: April 2, 6.30pm
WHERE: The Brown Table, Sadashivanagar
DETAILS: allevents.in

Move & Groove

Elevate your dance skills with an exclusive one-hour beginner-friendly heels dance workshop. Step into confidence and grace as experienced instructors guide you through the art of dancing in heels while also improving your posture, balance, and style.

WHEN: April 1, 2pm **WHERE:** New York Dance Classes, BTM 2nd Stage
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com



Theatre Tales

Witness the stage production of *36 Sati Savitri Nivasa*, directed by Karthik Hebbar, which chronicles the lives of three middle-class women as they go through important milestones in life. Book your seat and enjoy a story about sisterhood, old age, loneliness, and friendship!

WHEN: April 1, 7.30pm
WHERE: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
DETAILS: rangashankara.org

Stories from the Spirit

Head to this event for an evening of inventive mixology and immersive storytelling as Slink & Bardot from Mumbai arrive for an exclusive bar takeover! Experience a range of unique concoctions and pairings as they bring you bold flavours and craftsmanship.

WHEN: April 4, 7pm **WHERE:** The Drawing Room by Smoke House Deli, Indiranagar **CALL:** 86577 38861

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

ARTCORNER

WHAT THE LEAVES WHISPERED

Artist Alpana Vij's dried leaf and 24k gold thread on stone artwork reflects the cycles of decay, regeneration, and transformation

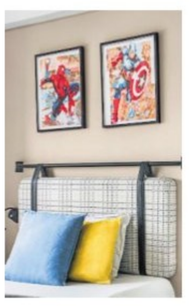
Spaces

DORM, SWEET DORM

Here are some ideas to transform your hostel room into a cosy home – be it lighting, crafted items, wallpapers, or fabrics

Hostels often prohibit drilling, painting, or permanent modifications, but design ingenuity can work around this

Ritika Radhakrishnan, principal architect at Archezium



AASHNA REDDY

If you've ever tried to turn your dorm into a Pinterest-worthy dream, you already know – it's less Architectural Digest, more a survival reality show. You want it to look like a TikTok clean girl apartment, but between your pile of clothes, hostel-issued furniture, and a roommate who thinks 'decor' means empty Coke bottles, things start looking more Hoarders (college edition). But here's the thing: just because your room is the size of a glorified broom closet, doesn't mean it can't have main-character energy. The key? Strategic décor, delusional optimism, and a deep commitment to lying to yourself about how much space you actually have.

Small space, big style

One of the biggest challenges of dorm living? The sheer lack of space. Principal architect at Archezium, Ritika Radhakrishnan, says, "The biggest hurdle would be the constraint of space. Dorms need to accommodate books, stationery, clothes, and essentials without feeling cluttered. Smart solutions include: vertical optimisation, multi-use elements, and strategic organisation."

Basically, your room needs to hold your entire life without looking like a chaotic landfill. The trick? Get creative. "I drew flowers on my wall right in front of my study desk," says Zoya (name changed), a law student from NALSAR University. "It makes staring at my textbooks slightly less soul-crushing," she adds. For those of us who aren't exactly the artistic type, removable peel-and-stick wallpaper is a game-changer. "Peel-and-stick wallpaper, soft lighting, and layered textiles add warmth without overwhelming the space," Radhakrishnan suggests.

The no-drill, no-fine decor strategy

Hostel wardens have a personal vendetta against nails, paint, and anything remotely fun, but that doesn't mean you can't personalise your space.

"I just decorated my dorm door instead of the room because they have a strict fine policy. How boring," says Mehak Anchal.

If you need instant cosiness without breaking the rules, soft textiles and layered lighting are your best bet. "Soft furnishings – plush throws, curtains for zoning, and rugs – enhance spatial warmth. Clip-on reading lamps and battery-operated LEDs for the bathrooms, wardrobes, and mirrors give an instant glam up without the hassle of re-wiring," Radhakrishnan adds. So yes, you can still achieve that Pinterest-worthy glow-up. No nails necessary.

Finding the right vibe

Indian dorm trends are having a moment, mixing practicality with serious aesthetic appeal. Minimalism and clean aesthetics are trending, but we Indians love a little extra.

"Minimalism and clean aesthetics are widely popular, but as Indians, we're naturally drawn to patterns, colours, and pieces that reflect our regional heritage," says Joohie Patel, principal designer at The Design Compound, Bengaluru.

Think ikat-print cushions, upcycled jute baskets, and vintage Bollywood posters. Or go Korean minimalism, Indian-style with soft pastels, charpais, and a single lucky bamboo plant that may or may not survive the midterms. "I wanted a Pinterest dorm, but I also wanted my mom's embroidered cushion covers, so now my room is a mix of Muji-core and full-on 'Nani's house in Jaipur' vibes," laughs Santana M.

For people who can manage to take care of a living thing besides themselves, indoor plants are a great option. "They can instantly liven up a space and improve air quality," says Patel. Small, low-maintenance options like succulents or lucky bamboo work well for dorm rooms.

Of course, some students take it a step further. "I wanted my dorm to feel more 'alive,' so I bought a tiny bamboo plant and a fish," says Siya R. "The plant is thriving. The fish... not so much."

The art of hiding the mess

No matter how aesthetic your room is, the real challenge is where to hide the mess when your parents visit. "One of the biggest challenges in dorm rooms is the lack of space, often paired with limited storage," says Patel. "Over-the-door hangers, wall organisers, and under-bed bins help maintain order."

"I bought these aesthetic woven baskets for 'storage,' but now they're just holding my snacks and 17 scrunchies," admits Medha Ponnusamy.

And for the overachievers? The power of zoning. "Designate specific areas for study, sleep, and storage to create an illusion of space," advises Patel. This means piling your clothes on your bed during the day and your books on your bed at night. Functionality is a scam.

The budget glow-up

Of course, no dorm makeover is complete without the budget struggle. When you're surviving on hostel food and ₹500 in your bank account, you've got to be smart. "DIY art, mirrors, scent and repurposed items can be both stylish and budget-friendly,"says Patel. "I just printed out Pinterest quotes and stuck them – instant aesthetic feels," says Kaavya Sriram from Bengaluru. "You're not going to believe this but I took some of my mom's old saris and used them as curtains," says Hiya S, adding, "Now my hostel looks homely. And slightly haunted." And if all else fails? Fairy lights – they always work.

Prankly Speaking

On this April Fool's Day, ignite ideas of mischief while being inspired by anecdotes by Bengalureans of pranks tried and tested

ANJALI RAM & MAHIMA NAGARAJU

APRIL 1 is not just a regular day on the calendar; it is a day of mischief, memories, and laughter. Celebrated as April Fool's Day across the globe, this particular day acts as a time-honoured tradition that unites people for the love of pranks and jokes. As the day is upon us, we dive into the memories of Bengalureans who share the pranks they have pulled or received.

ROOPASHREE, HOMEMAKER

My marriage was around April Fool's Day. My family played a tough trick on me saying my marriage might get cancelled. I fell for it because it was convincing enough. But fortunately, the prank didn't last for long and we laughed about it later.

SONU VENUGOPAL, COMEDIAN

Back during my Class 12 CBSE exams – there were these rumours about leaked papers; some classmates spread a rumour that the physics exam paper was leaked. I was an overachiever and was almost always righteous. I didn't want to know about the leaked paper but I remember asking others. In the end there was no leaked paper; they had just sent some fake leaked paper. Afterwards, they said it was a prank and I was furious. But luckily it did not affect my performance, I did well.

GARIMA BAJAJ, STUDENT

The craziest prank I've done was in 2023. I had just finished my boards and I sent a snap on Snapchat to my friend of a positive pregnancy test. She immediately texted back and called me saying, "Are you okay, do you need anything, I'm here for you, I'll help you to raise it"; I was like "Awwww but honey, this is a prank".

AARON ALEXANDER, ASPIRING ACTOR

Back in 2008, my cousin messaged me on Facebook asking "Hey bro, how's it going." Since it was April 1, I replied: "Not good, my brother had got into a fight with one of the boys and they bashed him up badly and now he has a head injury." I added that my brother was in hospital and we were waiting outside. My cousin flipped, and I tried my best to stall him but due to the intensity of the story, he got scared. Later, his mother called my mother asking about it. I overheard my mother talking to my aunt in confusion – "What are you talking about", "Hospital? Why?" – I ran to the kitchen screaming "Amma, cut the call." Needless to say, I got into much trouble for creating unnecessary panic.

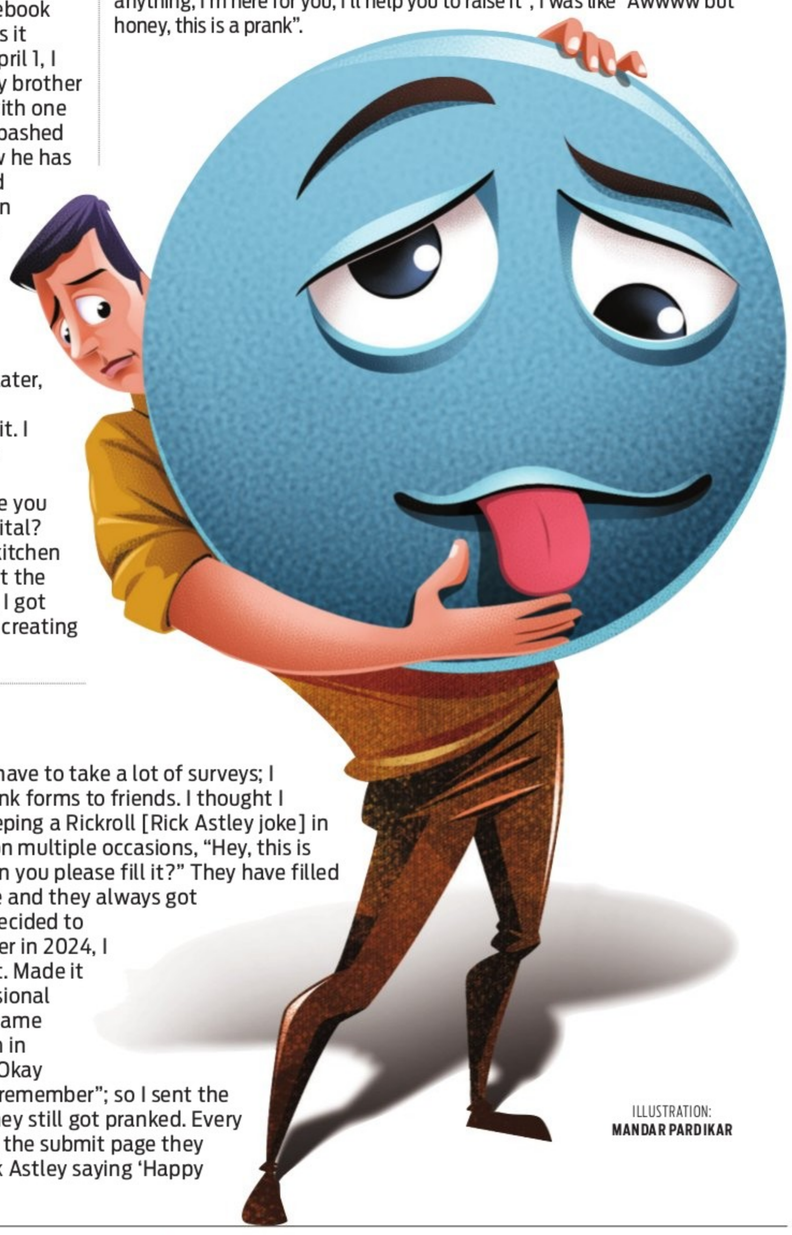


ILLUSTRATION: MANDAR PARDIKAR

ADI K, STUDENT

As a college student I have to take a lot of surveys; I keep sending Google link forms to friends. I thought I had a great idea of keeping a Rickroll [Rick Astley joke] in the form. I told them on multiple occasions, "Hey, this is for college purpose, can you please fill it?" They have filled it out every single time and they always got rickrolled. Then they decided to become wary of it. Later in 2024, I changed the form a bit. Made it look a bit more professional and they fell into the same prank again. And again in 2025, I was thinking, "Okay these people may not remember"; so I sent the same link again and they still got pranked. Every time they would reach the submit page they would get a GIF of Rick Astley saying 'Happy April Fool's Day'.

Your Guide to SPICY LIVING

INDULGE

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, No. JC-844443H, SUB **GOPI T M,** permanent resident of Thakkemaramveed, Vill & PO-Palayadnada, PS-Poyyolly, Teh-Badagara, Dist – Calicut, State-Kerala, declare that I have changed my daughter's name from **"SASHA"** (Old Name) to **"SASHA GOPINATH"** (New Name) vide affidavit sworn before Notary Public **R BASAVARAJA** at Bengaluru dated 7th March 2025.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHANTHA**, spouse of Wg Cdr. **P S KRISHNASWAMY** 11047 F (P) (Retd), presently residing at Flat No. A2-3092, Sobha Althea Apartment, Block-3, Nagenahalli, Near CRPF Yelahanka, Bangalore North, Bengaluru -560064, Karnataka, have changed my name from **SHANTHA** to **SHANTHA KRISHNASWAMY** and my date of birth is 25-10-1950 (Twenty Five October Ninteen Fifty), vide affidavit dated 29-03-2025 before Notary **R BASAVARAJA** at Bengaluru.

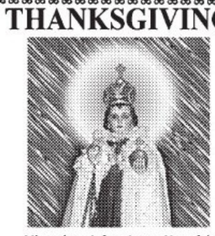
CHANGE OF NAME

I, **S. Geetha** W/o T. Chandra Shekara, residing at #902, First Floor, 3rd cross, 5th Main road, Near Subash Chandra Bose park, MC Layout, Bengaluru North-560040, do hereby declare that my name mentioned in Aadhaar Card, PAN Card & my Bank Account mentioned as S. GEETHA. But in HDFC Bank Ltd. Share certificate (Folio No. #HB 2079205) as a Nominee my name mentioned as **Geetha Chandra Shekara.** I state that **"S. GEETHA"** & **"GEETHA CHANDRA SHEKARA"**, both name pertains to me only vide Affidavit dated: 10.03.2025 sworn to before Advocate & Notary Smt. K.C. Shashikala, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru.

OTHERS

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING



Miraculous Infant Jesus, Heartfelt gratitude for your timely blessings showered on our family, seeking your blessings and guidance always.
Mrs Sushma and Family"

LOST

LOST

I, **MANVI JAIN** D/o Mr. Pramod Kumar Shantilal, age Major, R/at #10, Kamal Niwas, Srikantaiah Layout, Crescent Cross Road, Bengaluru-560 001 do hereby declare that my original pass Certificate issued by Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi of having passed the Indian certificate of Secondary Education, in the year 2016 from Vidyashilp Academy Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore has been lost. My Index Number was 1161193/042 and Unique IDis 6189506. Inspite of my best efforts I could not trace the same and in this regard on 28th March 2025, I had lodged online complaint at Police Unit, Bangalore City, vide Lost report No. 1542849/2025. If anybody finds the above said documents, please handover the same to the above said address or contact on **9844890516.**

LOST

I, **MANVI JAIN** D/o Mr. Pramod Kumar Shantilal, age Major, R/at #10, Kamal Niwas, Srikantaiah Layout, Crescent Cross Road, Bengaluru-560 001 do hereby declare that my original pass Certificate issued by Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi of having passed the Indian certificate of Secondary Education, in the year 2018 from Mallya Aditi International School, Bangalore has been lost, my Index Number was 2187069/032 and Unique IDis 6189506. Inspite of my best efforts I could not trace the same and in this regard on 28th March 2025, I had lodged online complaint at Police Unit, Bangalore City, vide Lost report No. 1542849/2025. If anybody finds the above said documents, please handover the same to the above said address or contact on **9844890516.**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SNEHAL NAYIK W/O SHIVANAND NAYIK HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AS SNEHAL **SHIVANAND NAYIK** VIDE AFFIDAVIT CERTIFICATE NO:IN-KA49393912038 23X DATED 29-03-2025 BEFORE ARUN R NAIK NOTARY BENGALURU FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **EVANGELINE KATIPOGU,** D/o Immanuel Katipogu, aged about 27 years, R/at No. 24, 2nd Main Road, Byreshwaraiah Layout, Behind Udupi Upahar Hotel, Nagawara, Bengaluru-560 045 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **EVANGILAMMA KATIPOGU** and **EVANGELINE KATIPOGU** are one and the same and refers to me only, now I have changed my name to **EVANGELINE KATIPOGU,** vide affidavit dated 28-03-2025, sworn before Notary **I. KANIKHA RAJA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SRI H.H. HUCHAIAH,** age 47 years, R/at NO. 19, New No.16, 1st Main, Muneshwara Block, Mahalakshmipuram Layout, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 086 do hereby declare that I have changed my daughter's name from **H. DEEPIKA** to **H. MAHALAKSHMI** pursuant to the judgement and decree dated 5th day of February 2025 in O.S. No. 4001/2024 passed by **Smt. Jyothsna D,** before Hon'ble XVI Addl. City City and Sessions Judge (CCH-12), Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BHARTI KALKAR,** W/o Vijay Kalkar, R/at No. 24036, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, Varthur Main Road, Gunjur, Bangalore-560 087 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BHARATI KALKAR** to **BHARTI KALKAR,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **BHARTI KALKAR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 29-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **VYSHALI .K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MAHESH**, S/o. Umesh, Residing at : # 164, 208, 23rd Main Road, Srinivas Nagar, Nandini Layout, Bangalore-560096, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MAHESH K M** to **MAHESH,** vide affidavit dated 28.03.2025, sworn to before C.N. Chandrashekar, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **CHANDRASEKHAR HOGTAPUR** Residing at No.1847/47, 19th Cross, 20th Main, M C Layout, Maruthi Mandir, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru-560040. Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name to **CHANDRASHEKHAR KALLAPPA HOGTAPUR** vide affidavit dated 27.03.2025 sworn to before Notary, **T C Thimmaraja**, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PRASHANTHI P.N.M,** S/o Munirathna .N, aged about 46 years, R/at No. 248, 2nd Cross, Ganapathi Nagara, Laggere, Peenya Small Industries, Bangalore-560 058 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PRASHANTH P.N.M** to **PRASHANTHI P.N.M,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **PRASHANTHI P.N.M** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **SUMITHRA .N** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt.AKANKSHA DERASARIYA** wife of Sri. Shubam.S, aged about 28 years, residing at No.79, Lakshmi Vatika, Ist Main, 10th Cross, behind Fortis Hospital, West of Chord Road, Mahalakshmipuram, Nagapura Cross, Bengaluru–560086, do hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **AKANKSHA DERASARIYA** to **AKANKSHA JAIN**, henceforth shall be known and called as **AKANKSHA JAIN** for all purposes, vide Affidavit dated: 28.03.2025 and same has been duly sworn before Advocate and Notary Public, **S.R. Paramashivaiah,** at Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MURUGA,** S/o AyyaKannan, aged about 47 years, R/at No. 378/4, Near Doddamma Temple, Shampura, Arabic College Post, Bangalore-560 045 do hereby declare that my correct name is **MURUGA** and my sur name is **SELVA .M,** but in my Driving Licence, my name is wrongly mentioned as **SELVA .M** instead of **MURUGA,** vide affidavit dated 27th March 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PRAKASHA .C** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **JEEVAGAN RAJENDIRAN,** S/o. Rajendran Jeevendiranainar, DOB : 11.05.1978, presently residing at # 713, 3rd Floor, 63rd Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JEEVAGAN RAJENDRAN** to **JEEVAGAN RAJENDIRAN, S/o. Rajendran Jeevendiranainar,** vide affidavit dated 28.03.2025, sworn to before Jain Swarnamala, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

DECLARATION

I, **SAROJA.P.M,** aged about 63 years, W/o K.G.Putteraiah, Residing at No.69, 4th Main, 2nd Cross, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-500034. I hereby declare that I was born on **18.08.1962** as per my Aadhar Card, Pan Card, Voter ID Card, and I further declare that in my Passport my date of birth is wrongly mentioned as **18.07.1956.** My Correct date of Birth is **18.08.1962.** Vide Affidavit dated **25.03.2025,** sworn before **Harisha.G.** B.A.LL.B., Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bangalore-28.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MADABAL HANUMANTHA RAO PRASHANTH** Residing at No.56, 3rd Cross, Kannika nagar, Ramasandra, Kengeri Post, Bengaluru-560060. Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name to **MADABAL HANUMANTHARAO PRASHANTH RAO** vide affidavit dated 24.03.2025 sworn to before Notary, **T C Thimmaraja,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MANISH KUMAR CHANDULAL PARMAR** S/o Sri Chandulal Parmar, R/at No. 915/25, 1st Floor, Usha Kutri, 2nd Main Road, Rajajinagar 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010 do hereby declare that both the names of my daughter i.e. **DHANVI and DHANVI MANISH KUMAR PARMAR** are one and the same and refers to my daughter only, henceforth she shall be known and called as **DHANVI MANISH KUMAR PARMAR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **Onkarappa .N.R** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHRINIVAS NAYAK,** S/o Hulagappa Lamani and Smt. Savitravva, residing at No. 3/501/2, Block No.3, Ginigera Taluk and District Koppal 583 228 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHIVANAPPA** to **SHRINIVAS NAYAK,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHRINIVAS NAYAK** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **R. VISHWANATH** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, the undersigned **RAKESH GUPTA** on behalf of my minor daughter, ARIN GUPTA (New Name), aged about 13 years, previously called **ARIN** (Old name) residing at Flat No. 102, Sai Sudha, Karnashree Residency, Karnushree Layout, 5th Cross, Near Parvathinagar, Medahalli, Bangalore – 560049, do hereby solemnly declare and state that I have changed my minor daughters name from **ARIN** to **ARIN GUPTA** by swearing to an affidavit in front of Notary public, **Mr. K.B.Sadha Shivappa** on 29.03.2025 for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ABHISHEK PRAKASH**, S/o. Prakash, residing at SVG Manhattan 33, 33/1, 33/2, & 33/3, Vasavi Temple road, Flat 6 B 6th floor, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ABHISHEK** to **ABHISHEK PRAKASH**, vide affidavit dated 29.03.2025, sworn to before Diwakar.N.Kagawad, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NARUKURTI VENKAT RAO,** aged about 53 years, residing at No.A-202, Hoysala Commanders Gallaria, No.2924/83/3, Near Balamuri Ganesha Temple, 3rd Corss, Tatanagar, Kodigenahalli, Bangalore North, Bengaluru-560092. My son name is **NARUKURTI LOHITH SURYA RAJ** as per his Aadhar Card No. 9167 7972 3730, as per SSLC Mark Card, Roll No.4144154, and his name is mentioned in his Passport No.K2689114 as **NARUKURTI LOHITH SURYA RAJA CHOWDARY.** We change his name **from NARUKURTI LOHITH SURYA RAJA CHOWDARY to NARUKURTI LOHITH SURYA RAJ** as per his all records & future benefits. Swron vide affidavit dated: 26.03.2025 before the Advocae & notary A.Manjula at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **GOPKUMAR NARAYANA PILLAI** S/o. **Krishna Narayana Pillai** R/at No.A2 112 SJR Luxuria Arekere Off, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560076, have changed my Name to **GOPAKUMAR NARAYANA PILLAI,** vide affidavit dated: 30/03/2025 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

Kishore

KISHORE TO STAR IN *AACHAR & CO* DIRECTOR SINDHU SREENIVASA MURTHY'S NEXT

The actor confirms that Sindhu has crafted an excellent story and also shares his thoughts on *Chi Soujanya*, directed by Harshika Poonacha

A SHARADHAA

WHILE it was recently revealed that actor Kishore will star in Harshika Poonacha's directorial debut, he is also set to collaborate with another talented female filmmaker. The actor will join hands with *AAchar & Co* director Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy for her next project, which is expected to begin filming in May.

Confirming the news, Kishore shares, "Sindhu has come up with a thought-provoking and sensitive concept. The story unfolds over 13 days, exploring themes of death, last rites, and the rituals that follow. It's a unique narrative, and I felt compelled to be part of it." He adds that the film is currently in pre-production, with the team eagerly preparing for the shoot.

Speaking about Harshika's directorial debut, *Chi Soujanya* Kishore says, "The title itself is quite meaningful, and we've had discussions about it. I really hope the team does justice to both the name and the story."

Having previously worked with director Sumana Kittur, Kishore reflects on the rarity of male actors collaborating with female directors. "It's not very common, largely because of male ego. But I believe that in creative work, gender doesn't matter. A female director is just as capable as any man. Their perspective might be different, but that's what makes their storytelling unique."

Offering a candid take on the changing dynamics of the film industry, he adds, "Instagram celebrities are becoming heroes now. For those of us who have studied cinema, trained in acting, or come from theatre, making a mark is becoming increasingly difficult. These days, popularity often feels like the only way in."

Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy

Dheekshith Shetty

to reunite with Srinidhi Bengaluru for found-footage horror vlogumentary

CE FEATURES

DHEEKSHITH Shetty and Srinidhi Bengaluru, the creative duo behind the hit film *Blink*, are reuniting for a groundbreaking horror experience. This time, they are venturing into a spine-chilling found-footage vlogumentary, blending horror with an immersive, first-person perspective. "We're not just telling a story; we're making you live it," says director Srinidhi, emphasising that the film will pull audiences directly into its terrifying world. To enhance the raw, immersive feel, the actors themselves will handle the cameras, capturing the fear in real time.

What sets this film apart from traditional found-footage horror is its modern, tech-driven approach. From action cameras to CCTV and car dash cams, these everyday devices will become integral to storytelling. "It's about today's vloggers, social media influencers, and the dual nature of their lives—their highs and lows—all while using contemporary technology to create a horror experience that feels unsettlingly real," explains Srinidhi. The team is pushing genre boundaries, weaving horror into a vlogumentary format that keeps audiences on edge. Interestingly, the film also incorporates moments of humour, adding an unexpected layer to the eerie atmosphere.

With two shooting schedules already completed, the team is set to wrap up the final leg in April, aiming for a theatrical release later this year. With Dheekshith Shetty leading the project, the makers are also in the process of finalising fresh faces to join the cast.

The technical crew from *Blink* is returning for this project, with Prasannaa Kumar composing the soundscape, Avinash Shastry handling cinematography, and Sanjeev Jagirdar in charge of editing.

Meanwhile, Dheekshith Shetty, balancing multiple projects across languages, is also set to star in director Ashoka's upcoming film, following his critically acclaimed *Dia*.

Dheekshith Shetty & Srinidhi

Philosophically deep, but struggles to anchor emotionally

MANADA KADALU
Director: Yogaraj Bhat
Cast: Sumukha, Rashika Shetty, and Anjali Anish

A SHARADHAA

YOGARAJ BHAT'S *Mungaru Male* remains one of Kannada cinema's most iconic love stories, largely because it captured love in its pure, fresh, and chaotic essence. The monsoon rains, as the perfect metaphor for love, swept audiences away in their beauty and unpredictability, leaving a lasting impact on audiences. So, when Bhat returns with another love story, expectations are naturally high, especially considering how *Mungaru Male* still casts a long shadow over his career. But does *Manada Kadaldu* live up to the hype, or does it find a new path to explore the complexities of love?

This time, Bhat shifts his metaphor from the monsoon rains to the vast, unpredictable sea. If the monsoon was a symbol of love's fresh start, the sea here becomes a reflection of the chaos, beauty, and uncertainty of life itself. Along with the sea and the coastal landscapes, the fort forms the emotional backdrop of the protagonist's journey—a journey that is as much about discovering the self as it is about love.

The film opens with the meaningful song 'Neeli Neeli Kadalu', and the climax sees Sumukha's character underwater, followed by a narration in his voice. This MBBS student from Mysuru begins the story at a crossroads. His disillusionment with his studies and the loss of someone close to him disrupts his idealism. In search of purpose beyond the confines of medicine, he cuts short his studies and sets out on a quest to find deeper meaning in life—through nature and his relationships with others. This is where love enters the picture: a chance encounter with Rashika at the seashore, a cricketer dealing with a medical condition, sets the stage for a complex love story. For Sumukha, it's love at first sight, but for Rashika, who is devoted to her sport, love is not on the agenda. Their dynamic speaks to the unpredictable nature of love—emotions don't always align with circumstances.

Sumukha's perseverance and his journey to win over Rashika leads him to Doni Durga, a coastal town where he meets Anjali, Rashika's best friend. Anjali, an archaeologist, cautions Rashika about the complexities of love, but as the story unfolds, she too finds herself entangled in her own feelings for Sumukha. The result is a poignant love triangle, one that challenges Sumukha to question not just his feelings for both women but also his larger purpose in life. Should he prioritise love, or should he seek a broader sense of meaning?

What sets *Manada Kadalu* apart from *Mungaru Male* is its shift from romance as the central theme to a broader meditation on life and its purpose. The film asks a vital question: Is it enough to chase love, or should we aim to embrace life in its totality, accepting love as only one piece of a larger journey? In contrast to the simplicity of *Mungaru Male*, *Manada Kadaldu* is far more philosophical, urging reflection on the full spectrum of human experience.

While the film's underlying message is thought-provoking, it doesn't always land with the emotional weight it aims for. At times, the pacing feels uneven. In parallel, the story weaves in the significance of the fort with the history of a king who lived with two wives. There is an element of ancient healing through the character of Dattatreya, juxtaposing modern medicine with traditional knowledge.

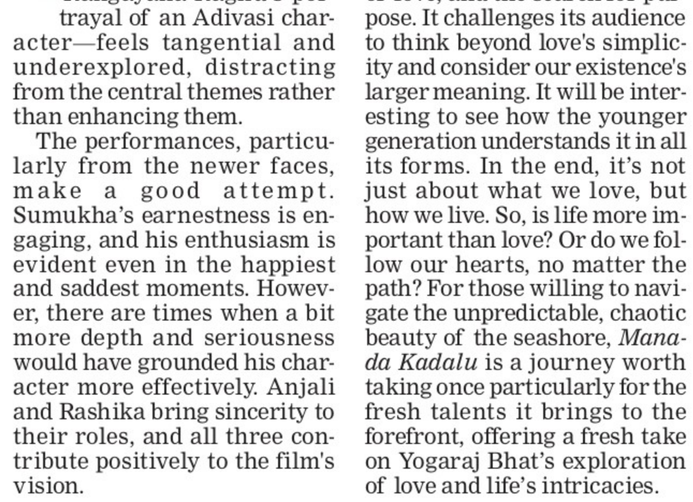
RATING 3/5

While this could have been a powerful way to address the complex nature of existence, these elements feel underdeveloped in the script. One subplot—Rangayana Raghu's portrayal of an Adivasi character—feels tangential and underexplored, distracting from the central themes rather than enhancing them.

The performances, particularly from the newer faces, make a good attempt. Sumukha's earnestness is engaging, and his enthusiasm is evident even in the happiest and saddest moments. However, there are times when a bit more depth and seriousness would have grounded his character more effectively. Anjali and Rashika bring sincerity to their roles, and all three contribute positively to the film's vision.

Yogaraj Bhat's long-time collaborator Harikrishna's music complements the emotional highs and lows, while cinematographer Santosh Rai Pathaje captures the breathtaking beauty of the sea, mountains, and lush greenery. These natural elements become as much a character in the film as the people themselves, contributing to the visual storytelling.

Manada Kadalu is not a film that will simply sweep you off your feet the way *Mungaru Male* did, and one should not expect it to. Instead, it's a reflective journey about life's complexities, the unpredictability of love, and the search for purpose. It challenges its audience to think beyond love's simplicity and consider our existence's larger meaning. It will be interesting to see how the younger generation understands it in all its forms. In the end, it's not just about what we love, but how we live. So, is life more important than love? Or do we follow our hearts, no matter the path? For those willing to navigate the unpredictable, chaotic beauty of the seashore, *Manada Kadalu* is a journey worth taking once particularly for the fresh talents it brings to the forefront, offering a fresh take on Yogaraj Bhat's exploration of love and life's intricacies.


A still from the film

ZACK SNYDER

TO HELM A UFC FILM

CE FEATURES

ZACK Snyder is all set to co-write, co-produce, and direct a film titled *Brawler,* which will follow a Los Angeles man's journey to the top of the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) world. Kurt Johnstad and Shay Hatten are also attached to the project as its co-writers. Snyder will produce the film alongside Deborah Snyder and Wesley Coller under their label Stone Quarry. On the other hand, Hatten and Johnstad will serve as executive producers, alongside UFC's chief content officer Craig Borsari and Turki Alashikh, the chairman of the General Entertainment Authority of Saudi Arabia who owns the American boxing magazine 'The Ring'.

Speaking about the film, UFC CEO Dana White stated, "I've been a fan of Zack's work for years, his unique style—from his iconic action sequences to his sweeping visuals and intensely emotional storytelling—coupled with his humanized portrayal of deeply-flawed characters is singular. I couldn't think of a better person to partner with to bring the UFC to the big screen." The makers are yet to reveal specific plot details, but White added that it will explore what is necessary to win the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

"Behind every great fighter is the story of how they got there. UFC is the world leader in combat sports and I'm honored to be partnering with them to tell this incredible story," stated Snyder.

BRAT IS A UNIQUE TITLE THAT TRANSCENDS LANGUAGES: SHASHANK

CE FEATURES

DIRECTOR Shashank and actor Krishna, who have revealed the name of their next film as *BRAT*, emphasise that it's more than just a name—it's a statement of intent. The duo is eager to take the film across multiple languages, aiming to capture audiences everywhere. The title was unveiled in an innovative way—through a song by rapper Rahul Ditto, released in five languages.

The word *BRAT* immediately evokes mischief and youthful rebellion. "The term is often used to describe mischievous boys, usually under sixteen," says Shashank. "Our film deeply resonates with the youth, making this title a perfect fit. We considered a Kannada title, but since the film is a multilingual release, *BRAT* stands out uniquely across all languages."

Lead actor Krishna shares his excitement about venturing into new territory. "I've mostly worked in romantic or family-orientated films, but *BRAT* is different. It's a rare, unique story, and for the first time, I even attended a workshop to prepare for my role. We've completed most of the shooting, and I believe audiences will connect with this fresh approach," he explains.

The film revolves around a father-son conflict, with veteran actor Achyuth Kumar portraying the father. "To the father, his son is a '*brat*'," Shashank reveals, hinting at a tension-filled narrative. Manisha Kandakur, a rising star in Kannada cinema, makes her debut as a middle-class girl. The cast also includes Ramesh Indira as the antagonist, Dragon Manju, alongside Tejas, Gaurav Shetty, and Sanchit in pivotal roles.

Shashank has joined forces with First Rank Raju producer Manjunath Kandakur for this project. "I was drawn to the story Shashank narrated. That's why, after five years, I decided to return to production," says Manjunath. The film's cinematography is handled by Abhilash Kalathi.

Krishna